WORLD SOCCER,
JANUARY 1962

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picture story on pages 20-21

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Total	128	42	24	62	42.19

This month's front cover . . .

Peter Bonetti, Chelsea's brilliant young goalkeeper with distinguishing jockey cap, foils a raid on his charge by Sheffield United centre-forward Derek Pace who is in the process of being tackled by another Chelsea defender. (P.A.1.)

what to look for in next month's edition

● *The February issue of* WORLD SOCCER *will again be devoted to the task of bringing the soccer news from all corners of the globe to readers. While the latter part of the World Cup qualifying stage will be dealt with in full, other competitions of international and club importance will be fully covered. Among the special items down for inclusion in this edition are a club focus by Roger Macdonald on the Spanish club Bilbao, a comprehensive feature on the Olympic Games and a player portrait by Eric Batty on the outstanding German half-back of the 1954 World Cup competition Werner Liebrich. Gordon Jeffery will continue his exclusive round-up of World Cup groups and on this occasion deals with the Italy-Israel pairing which put the former right on the Road to Chile. Other regular contributors are, of course, Kenneth Wolstenholme, Tom Muldowney, Jerry Weinstein, Ken Montgomery plus correspondents from every soccer outpost. The line-ups of international matches played during the corresponding period, fixtures for the coming month on both domestic and international levels and all the usual articles connected with the sport's leading authorities are to be found in the February edition. Be sure of placing an order now for the International Soccer Magazine* WORLD SOCCER. *Other countries to be featured in this issue are Finland from the pen of Eric Batty, Australia by Andrew Dettre and an enlightening probe into the achievements of Switzerland in reaching the World Cup Finals in Chile. The latest news from England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Gordon Jeffery will again be delving into the soccer minded continent of South America which is destined to become more and more interesting as the time for the finals in Chile draws nearer.*

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE

World Soccer

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January contents

		Page
Classified Results		4
English Review	*Jack Rollin*	5
International Post Mortem	*Gordon Jeffery*	6
Hungary's World Cup Hope	*Dr. Foldessy*	9
Last Of Latin Cup?	*Roger Macdonald*	10
Bolivians Now Emerging		11
World Cup Groups	*Gordon Jeffery*	12
Return To Caribbean	*Roger Macdonald*	14
Morocco Make Progress	*Norman Reich*	16
Room At Top For Bulgaria	*Eric Batty*	17
Who Wears No. 9 Shirt?	*Leslie Page*	18
End Of Road To Chile		20
Brazil To Retain Title?	*Kenneth Wolstenholme*	22
Thyne's Appointment Will Help	*Ken Montgomery*	23
Fouling By Obstruction	*Harry Brown*	24
Around The World		26
4-2-4 Come To Stay?	*Eric Batty*	28
Revival Of Rouen	*Roger Macdonald*	31
News From Malta	*Rem Sacco*	35
European Fixtures		36
Top Six Clubs		37
Danish Football At Low Ebb	*Wilfred Schuhmacher*	37
Grand Finale To Springbok Season	*Vernon Woods*	38
Eire Round-up	*Tom Muldowney*	39

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Brazil	1	1	0	0	100.00
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East Germany	4	4	0	0	100.00
West Germany	5	3	0	2	60.00
Germany (pre 1945)	18	7	6	5	55.56
Greece	1	1	0	0	100.00
Republic of Ireland	5	2	3	0	70.00
Italy	26	7	8	11	42.31
South Korea	1	1	0	0	100.00
Luxembourg	2	2	0	0	100.00
Mexico	1	1	0	0	100.00
Netherlands	4	3	0	1	75.00
Netherlands West Indies	1	1	0	0	100.00
Norway	4	3	0	1	75.00
Poland	16	15	0	1	93.75
Portugal	2	0	1	1	25.00
Rumania	10	9	1	0	95.00
Scotland	5	2	2	1	60.00
Spain	2	0	0	2	00.00
Sweden	24	14	6	4	70.83
Switzerland	29	22	2	5	79.31
Turkey	2	1	0	1	50.00
Uruguay	1	1	0	0	100.00
U.S.S.R.	7	1	2	4	28.57
Tsarist Russia	2	2	0	0	100.00
Wales	3	1	1	1	50.00
Yugoslavia	18	10	6	2	72.22
Total	380	214	74	92	66.05

FIFTEEN REASONS WHY

HERE are some of the first class, four colour, cover photos, featured in previous editions of WORLD SOCCER. England and Peru (October); Dunfermline and Celtic, Scotland (September); Feyenoord and Ajax, Holland (August); Anastasiadis, Greece (July); Sivori, Juventus (June); Colunna, Benfica (May); Seeler, Hamburg S.V. (April); Gento, Real Madrid (March); Faber, Dynamo Praha (February); Pele, Santos (January); Grice, West Ham (December); Martinez, Barcelona (November); Bubernik, Red Star Bratislava (October); Kuznetsov, Russia (November); Svensson, Karlstrad F.C. (December). There are also a host of other interesting articles, pictures and statistics included in each edition of WORLD SOCCER. Send 2/- (plus 4d. postage) for each back number required, to the Circulation Manager, WORLD SOCCER, 1 Ludgate Circus Buildings, London, E.C.4, England.

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CLASSIFIED RESULTS

OCTOBER 25

World Cup match

England (2) **2** (Connelly, Pointer)
Portugal (0) **0**

England: Springett, Armfield, Wilson, Robson, Swan, Flowers, Connelly, Douglas, Pointer, Haynes, Charlton.
Portugal: Pereira, Lino, Hilario, Perides, Lucio, Vicente, Yauca, Eusebio, Azuas, Coluna, Cavem.

OCTOBER 29

World Cup Match

Switzerland (1) **3** (Antenen, Wuthrich, Eschmann)
Sweden (1) **2** (Brodd, Simonsson)

Switzerland: Elsener; Schneiter, Morf; Grobety, Meier, Tacchella; Antenen, Eschmann, Wuthrich, Pottier, Allemann.
Sweden: Nyholm; Bergmark, Wing; Sandberg, Gustavsson, Oberg; Jonsson, Brodd, Simonsson, Borjesson, Backmann.

World Cup Match

Czechoslovakia (4) **7** (Kvasnak 2, Scherer 2, Pospichal, Jelinek, Masopust)
Eire (0) **1** (Fogarty)

Czechoslovakia: Schroif; Hiedik, Popluhar; Tichy, Pluskai, Masopust; Pospichal, Scherer, Kvasnak, Adamec, Jelinek.
Eire: Dwyer; Kelly, Cantwell; Nolan, Hurley, McGrath; O'Neill, Fogarty, Fitzgerald, Giles, Haverty.

NOVEMBER 1

Inter-League

Irish League (1) **1** (Morrison)
Football League (5) **6** (Crawford 2, Kay, Miller, Fantham, Harris)

Irish League: Stallard; Gilliland, Johnstone; Cush, Twentyman, Smith; Humphries, Doherty, Thompson, Morrison, Hamilton.
Football League: Banks; Howe, Shaw; Miller, Labone, Kay; Connelly, Hill, Crawford, Fantham, Harris.

Scottish League (0) **1** (Brand)
Italian League (0) **1** (Hitchens)

Scottish League: Conachan; Hamilton, Caldow; Crerand, Ure, Baxter; Scott, Quinn, Black, Brand, Wilson.
Italian League: Albertosi; David, Parinato; Zagilo (Nichon), Charles (Janich), Colombo; Hamrin, Maschio, Hitchens, Law, Petris.

NOVEMBER 4

World Cup Match

Italy (1) **6** (Sivori 4, Angelillo, Corso)
Israel (0) **0**

Italy: Buffon; Losi, Robotti; Bolchi, Maldini, Trapattoni; Mora, Angelillo, Altafina, Sivori, Corso.
Israel: Hodorov; Benvenisti, Tendler; Peterburg, Lekovitz, Tisch; Shmulevitz, Mencrel, Stelmach, Ratzabi, Yang.

NOVEMBER 5

Malta (1) **1** (D'Emmanuele)
Norway (1) **1** (Kotte)

Malta: Mizzi; Anastasi, Theobald (L.); Cini, Cilia, Zammit (F.); Zammit (J.), Dalli, Cauchi, Borg (Theobald (E.)), D'Emmanuele (Nicholl).
Norway: Hansen (Kaspensen); Bulker, Johannson (T.); Johannson (R.), Svenson, Lexernes; Sorenson, Pedersen, Kotte, Andersen, Jensen.

NOVEMBER 8

Scotland (1) **2** (St. John 2)
Wales (0) **0**

Scotland: Brown; Hamilton, Caldow; Crerand, Ure, Baxter; Scott, White, St. John, Brand, Wilson.
Wales: Kelsey; Harrington, Williams (S.); Crowe, Charles (M.), Baker; Allchurch (L.), Woosnam, Leek, Allchurch (I.), Jones.

Inter-League

Football League (0) **0**
Italian League (0) **2** (Hitchens, Lajacono)

Football League: Springett; Armfield, Wilson; Kay, Swan, Flowers; Connelly, Fantham, Pointer, Haynes, Charlton.
Italian League: Albertosi; David, Parinato; Nichom, Janich, Colombo; Hamrin, Maschio, Hitchens, Lajacono, Law.

NOVEMBER 9

Young England (3) **7** (Byrne 2, Hill F. (2), Harris, Hill S., Farmer)
Israel (1) **1** (Levy)

Young England: West; Kirkup, Jones; Moore, Labone, Deakin; Hill (S.), Byrne, Farmer, Hill (F.), Harris.
Israel: Hodorov (Noscowski); Aharonov, Tendler; Peterburg, Levkovitch, Tisch; Mentchel, Stelmach, Rozenbaum, Levy, Young.

NOVEMBER 12

World Cup Match

Switzerland (0) **2** (Schneiter, Antenen)
Sweden (1) **1** (Brodd)

Switzerland: Elsener; Schneiter, Morf; Grobety, Meier, Tacchella; Antenen, Eschmann, Wuthrich, Pottier, Allemann.
Sweden: Nyholm; Bergmark, Wing; Mildh, Gustavsson, Oberg; Backmann, Sandberg, Simonsson, Brodd, Svahn.

World Cup Match

Morocco (0) **0**
Spain (0) **1** (Del Sol)

Morocco: Labied; Larbi, I'Didi; Tibari, Batache, Abdalah; Azhar, Akesbi, Brahim, Mahjoub, Riadi.
Spain: Araquistain; Rivilla, Montes; Zoco, Santamaria, Ruiz, Sosa; Aguirre, Del Sol, Di Stefano, Puskas, Gento.

Holland (0) **0**
Belgium (3) **4** (Claessen 2, Vandenberg, Van Himst)

Holland: Pieterszenaafland; Wierema, Veldhoven; Kreyermaat, Pronck, Muller; Swart, Groot (H.), Vanderlinden, Schouten, Moulijn.
Belgium: Nicolay; Bare, Raskin; Hanon, Storme, Lippens; Jurion, Van Himst, Claessen, Vandenberg, Paeschen.

Belgium B (1) **2** (Vermeyen 2)
Luxembourg (0) **1** (Schneider)

Belgium B: Boone; Vliers, Defraigne; Weyn, Saeys, Van Hemelrijck; Persegael, Vermeyen, Ritzen, Deurwaerder, Orlans.
Luxembourg: Steffen; Brenner, Hofmann (J.); Zambon, Brosius, Konter; Vandirini, Cirelli, Schmit, Schneider, Hofmann (N.).

Turkey (1) **1** (Metin)
Russia (2) **2** (Gousarov, Mamoukine)

Turkey: Necmi; Cardemir, Ismail; Seref, Sabahattin, Ahmet; Ogun, Suat, Metin, Can, Lefter.
Russia: Yachin; Dubinski, Tchokelli; Voronine, Maslenkine, Netto; Metrevelli, Hamparsoumian, Gousarov, Mamoukine, Meskhi.

NOVEMBER 19

Yugoslavia (1) **2** (Jerkovic 2)
Austria (1) **1** (Nemec)

Yugoslavia: Soskic; Durkovic, Markovic; Radakovic, Nikolic, Vasovic, Cebinac, Sekularac, Jerkovic, Galic (Mujic), Bego.
Austria: Fraydl; Trubrif, Hasenkopf; Hanappi, Stotz, Giesser; Nemec, Knoll, Buzek, Hof (Kozlicek II), Rafreider.

Leicester City's goalkeeper Gordon Banks is considered the deputy for current England choice Ron Springett of Sheffield Wednesday. Here Banks is seen in action. (P.A.2.)

GREAVES IS BACK, ALL ENGLAND WAITS

English international soccer is at the cross-roads, says ***JACK ROLLIN***

THREE topics have taken up much of the gossip on the game during the past few weeks, two of them familiar items, the third a new departure. Of the former two, both are somewhat related in their implications and represent a move which might satisfactorily settle two problems of outstanding issue.

The return to these shores of Jimmy Greaves has given rise to the hope that not only has this unpleasant affair reached its concluding episode, but with any luck the new Tottenham signing should be able to resume his position in an England side that has reached a new low.

Although it might be fairly said that the continued chopping and changing of trialists in the inside-right and centre-forward positions may have adversely affected the overall performance, it is an undeniable fact that not one England or Football League representative side has borne any slight resemblance to an eleven affording even the barest glimpse of improvement in the future.

Undoubtedly the same question is posed about the prospects for Chile. Unless Greaves and Gerry Hitchens are available, our hopes are grim indeed. The absence of these two has already had a definite effect on the rest of the side as was mentioned in these columns before. The defence subconsciously must have the feeling that the forwards are unlikely to score. Whatever momentary deficiencies there are in the link part of the 4-2-4 system, the reason for actual failure lies in the inability of the striking third of the team to fulfil its proper function. The match with Northern Ireland at Wembley illustrated how weak these penetrating powers are at present and the excuse that it has been "blanket" defences that have been responsible for the downfall are no longer completely valid.

With a respite from international competition for a few months, the task of injecting confidence back into the World Cup party will be a difficult one. There will be precious few matches next year to test the suitability of an optimistic Chilean expedition. But without Greaves, and on the evidence as of now, Hitchens, England's chances are practically non-existant. Hitchens' boss, Helenio Herrera, considers that the ex-Villa leader has doubled his market value since he joined Internazionale and is now conversant with the rigours and difficulties experienced from close-marking. Greaves, likewise, knows a little more than he did six months ago—from this type of marking of course.

But assuming all is well with these two, there is the remainder of the side to consider. It is perhaps expecting too much that the restoration of the missing twosome of last season will result in an immediate return to overall smooth running and performance.

While everyone realises that the "something wrong" with the England side was a problem with a possible solution, the Football League decided to spend £10,000 on determining how they could take steps to put the game back on its feet from the domestic angle.

For years criticised right, left and centre by Tom, Dick and Harry for failing to take the necessary action over falling attendances and the loss of interest in the competition, the Management Committee are now receiving brickbats from all levels for wasting the money—when the answers are apparently only too obvious! Some people are never satisfied.

But at the time of writing at least, attendances for the current term are stabilising and unless the winter is a harsh one there is unlikely to be the same drop as experienced last season. This is the time for such an exhaustive survey so that some foundation can be laid for re-organising for the future.

In the League, championship contenders are Burnley, out to repeat their success of two seasons ago. Newly promoted Ipswich Town are close behind them as are Everton. But Tottenham are still worried and though they disposed of Feijenoord in the European Cup they will find Dukla Prague a vastly different side to deal with, home and away. Both Manchester clubs are passing through poor patches, but Liverpool's efforts at a return to this top division are still impressive. One pleasing feature of the past weeks has been the lessening in the gaps between top and bottom clubs, which should help to sustain interest.

In the Third Division, Bournemouth have emerged as the fancied favourites although they are likely to be hard pressed by at least six other contestants, including Portsmouth and Peterborough. Wrexham have shown their ability in Division Four and defeated Aldershot to take the lead.

Though mostly concerned with these lower divisions, fifty matches in the Football League will be played on Friday evenings in the New Year and it will be interesting to see the outcome of attendances. Opinion, once all in favour of a switch to pay-night, appears to be swinging the other way—well opinion is constantly altering course in soccer without apparently knowing its destination.

Another facet that is destined for continued change is the ever popular pastime of "managerial chairs" a new and rather less hilarious twist to the old party game. Frank Hill, late of Notts County, is now in charge at Charlton Athletic and Archie Macaulay, once of Norwich City is now with West Bromwich Albion. Since these were two of the latest moves it is pretty safe to assume that two clubs are settled, but the trend shows no sign of easing and the queues for the vacancies merely grow longer.

Now the players' champion of last season has joined the band and accepted the position of Manager with Coventry City!

In junior soccer when a team loses it is the goalkeeper who is blamed; in the Football League the Manager is eventually dropped.

OUR MONTHLY ABSORBING SERIES

WORLD CUP TIES UNDER REVIEW . . .

INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

Each month on these pages we go back over the major internationals played since the last issue. The particular games featured are indicated at the head of the article for quick reference.

by GORDON JEFFERY

RAYMOND KOPA

Raymond Kopa (seen on the left) still one of France's greatest players despite a more recent lapse of form. Kopa, over the past few months, has been missing his other 'twin,' just Fontaine who has been out of action through a leg injury. The fabulous record-breaking partnership may have been renewed by now.

WORLD CUP QUALIFYING TIES

Oct. 25:	England	2	Portugal	0	grb.	6
Oct. 29:	Switzerland	3	Sweden	2	,,	1
Oct. 29:	Bulgaria	3	Finland	1	,,	2
Oct. 29:	Turkey	2	Norway	1	,,	5
Oct. 29:	Czecho.	7	Rep. of Ireland	1	,,	8
Oct. 29:	Mexico	1	Paraguay	0	,,	14
Nov. 4:	Italy	6	Israel	0	,,	7
Nov. 5:	Paraguay	0	Mexico	0	,,	14
Nov. 12:	Bulgaria	1	France	0	,,	2
Nov. 12:	Switzerland	2	Sweden	1	,,	1
Nov. 12:	Morocco	0	Spain	1	,,	9
Nov. 12:	Turkey	1	U.S.S.R.	2	,,	5

THE last day of December in the year 1961 seemed a long way ahead when the groupings were announced for the qualifying competition for the 1962 World Cup and December 31, 1961, fixed as the latest date for the completion of the qualification matches. But, long way though it was and despite the first matches being played in the summer of 1960, most countries seem to have left the playing of some of the qualifying matches at least as late as they possibly could—no doubt in the expectation that the players good enough to earn them a place in the finals would still be in good shape in the early summer of 1962.

The period under review last month included eleven World Cup Qualifying matches. This month's crop is twelve—most of them played on Sunday, October 29, or a fortnight later, on Sunday, November 12. But before these two days of decision for many countries, came the testing time at Wembley for England and Portugal. The home country, after slipping into an early two-nil lead before the Portuguese defence—still looking lost without Germano—had got the feeling of the game, never seemed likely to lose, even though as the game progressed they lost their now customary midfield command. Perhaps this was mainly because they knew that if they maintained a solid defence their progress to Chile was guaranteed. Certainly Portugal were unable to *contrive* a single scoring opportunity although Eusebio tried a few long-range shots and, in happier form, Aguas might have pounced alertly on a couple of defensive blunders.

Jack Rollin was able to make a "stop-press" comment on this match in last month's *WORLD SOCCER* and further remarks are unnecessary but, for the record in this feature, the scorers for England were Connelly and Pointer.

Ten Wins

The Sunday following this Wembley match brought ten countries into World Cup action and when the final whistles blew Finland, beaten 3-1 by Bulgaria; Norway, beaten 2-1 by Turkey; and the Republic of Ireland, beaten 7-1 by Czechoslovakia, made their farewell bows to the World Cup competition for another four years. Each of these three were the "rank outsider" of the "favourite-dark horse-rank-outsider" pattern of most of the European groups and each played true to form and ended pointless. For their respective conquerors, however, the present competition remained very much alive.

Bulgaria's victory over Finland brought their total points to four with a home match to play against France who had six points. Both, in other words, were matches Bulgaria had to win but when outside-right, Pietilainen, put Finland into the lead after only eight minutes play, there were anxious faces in the crowd at Sofia! Kolev, for some seasons the golden boy of Bulgarian football, seemed oddly out of touch as he has done for much of the current season, but the superior team and individual play of the Bulgars gradually asserted itself against the enthusiastic endeavours of the Finns. Naab in goal and Heinonen at centre-back were in excellent form for Finland and the right-wing pair of Pietilainen and Nupponen sometimes dangerous but goals by Yakimov (star of the Bulgarian side on the day) and Diev had put Bulgaria in front by the interval and the frowns had disappeared from the faces of the spectators. Seven minutes from the end Velitchkov scored Bulgaria's third goal but by that time thoughts were already turning to the vital engagement a fortnight hence against France.

Meantime in Istanbul, not a great distance from Sofia, a second Balkan-Baltic clash was taking place between Turkey and Norway. Turkey were in a similar position to Bulgaria with a victory over Norway offering them the chance of reaching four points with a home match to come against the Soviet Union on the six point mark. That the Soviet Union in June had only been able to win their home match against Turkey by a single goal had encouraged speculation to the effect that their chances of qualifying for Chile were no more than even and, conversely, that Turkey could be the ultimate group winners.

As it happened the Turks were fortunate to get both points from their match against Norway who probably felt themselves that luck was heavily against them when their goalkeeper, Hansen, was injured in the first minute and had to leave the field—full-back Johanssen taking over in goal. Despite this, Norway contained the play sufficiently well for the Turkish fans to start worrying lest the young Turkish players would prove inadequate to the task—Metin was at centre-forward but he lacked experienced colleagues in the forward line.

DEALS EXCLUSIVELY WITH QUALIFYING MATCHES

Hansen returned after a quarter of an hour and the score was nil-nil at the interval. The Turkish forwards continued to show individual merit but little effective combined play and the vital goal refused to come for them—instead, after 57 minutes play, Norway took the lead with Jenssen scoring from a pass by Kotte. Perhaps this was the spur the young Turks needed. Certainly within two minutes, Aydin, who last played in the national side surprisingly beaten by Rumania last May, had equalised. A quarter of a hour later Tarik achieved what proved to be the final goal—to give Turkey the same chance as Bulgaria of a match to win to tie for group leadership.

Czechoslovakia were in that position *before* the start of their match against the Republic of Ireland and, as millions in Europe saw on television, they played throughout with the skill and authority of a team that can challenge the best in the world. The Czechs have been celebrating the 60th anniversary of football in their country and they made the match against the Republic of Ireland a climax to the celebrations. Perhaps it was the pre-match programme—a long television feature showing the great matches and the great players of the past in Czech football; the honouring of those great wing-halves, Masopust and Pluskal, as Masters of Sport; and so on—that dissuaded the present Czech team from any thoughts of taking the game easy and "letting the Irish down lightly"! Instead, on an afternoon made pleasant by lovely sunshine and on a ground ideally situated on the hills above Prague, perhaps the loveliest of all European capitals, the eleven Czech players satisfied the forty thousand spectators that the glories of Czech football can be as confidently entrusted to them as ever it was to the players of the past.

Adamec

All the forwards, Kvasnak twice, Scherer twice, Jelenik and Pospichal, with the exception of inside-left Adamec, scored and if there was any hold-up in the scoring rate it might have been through the efforts of his team-mates and Adamec himself to get his name on the score-sheet! In fact the inside-left missed out and the seventh goal (the sixth in scoring sequence) was hammered in by that prince (if the Czechs will allow that recollection of their Ruritanian past!) of wing-halves, Masopust.

For the Irish, only Hurley and Cantwell were in the same class as the Czech players but it is doubtful whether any side would have held the Czechs on their own terrain in this anniversary mood.

Still on the same Sunday—Switzerland, with four points, and Sweden, with six points, met each other in Berne. Fifty-five thousand excited spectators experienced an immediate shock to their Swiss hopes when Agne Simonsson, appearing by permission of Real Sociedad, scored for Sweden in the first minute. But Karl Rappan's players hit back and seven minutes later outside-right, Antenen, made the scores level—as it remained at half-time. Switzerland however needed a win and not a draw and twenty-three minutes from the end, Wuthrich put them in front for the first time. Ten minutes later, however, the joy of the crowd was hushed as Yrgve Brodd, appearing by permission of Toulouse, equalised for Sweden.

Sweden were within ten minutes of booking their passage to Chile when inside-right Eschmann scored for Switzerland to make a play-off necessary—but still the general view was that of the two S's, Sweden was the more likely to ultimately qualify.

Meanwhile Paraguay had journeyed to Mexico City to play their first match in the World Cup qualifying competition. Their opponents, Mexico, on the other hand had played through the long stint of the North and Central American Zone matches—winning a sub-group by drawing and beating the U.S.A., and winning the zone with five points from four matches against Costa Rica and the Antilles.

Mexico began the match as if fearful of defeat but, as they found Paraguay fretful and uneven in their team play, gradually came more and more into the game. Not until Salvador Reyes scored what turned out to be the golden goal and the effective ending of Paraguay's confident expectations of appearing in the World Cup finals, did the Paraguayans come to life. But the match was more than half over by that time and Paraguay had more violence than skill to offer. The star player was in fact Paraguay's goalkeeper, Maygereyer, and that in itself is an indication of Mexico's superiority. But there was still the second match to be played—Ascuncion, Paraguayans anticipated, would see a different story.

Once they do get down to the business of arranging World Cup Qualifying fixtures the South and Central American countries waste little time between matches, and the return Paraguay-Mexico encounter was played only a week after the first one. Before it, however—to keep this post-mortem in chronological order—Italy entertained Israel in the second of their Group 7 Qualifying matches. Israel, as reported last month, shocked the Italians at Tel Aviv by gaining a two-nil interval lead and hanging on to a two-all draw until Corso scored twice more for Italy in the dying minutes of the match. There was no similar delayed action required in the Turin match although the Israeli defended stubbornly to limit the score to a single goal, scored by Sivori, at the interval. They tired noticeably in the second half, however, and the Italian goals piled up through Sivori, after 8, 22 and 43 minutes: Corso after 15 minutes, and Angelillo (playing in place of Lojacono) after 24 minutes. But this six-nil victory does not add up to much and is best seen

Continued overleaf

Former Standard Liege international outside-left, Andre Piters, was transferred, at the end of last season, to Olympic Charleroi. He figured in an exchange deal with Michel Delire, Belgian international inside-forward.

INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

Continued from previous page

in conjunction with the England Under-23 team's 7-1 win over basically the same Israel side a few days later. It did mean, however, that Italy had completed their singularly easy passage to Chile.

One day later and several thousand miles away, Mexico completed their singularly long passage. The Paraguay-Mexico match at Ascuncion was in all respects, save the vital one, the reverse of the game played in Mexico City. Gone were the fumbling futilities of the Paraguayans, the hesitations—but not all their efforts could get a single shot past the magnificent Carbajal in the Mexican goal, or penetrate the packed Mexican defence to afford a Paraguayan player a foolproof chance. Last month I notice that I wrote of the general pattern of matches in the final stages of the World Cup—"apart from Mexico's occasional nil-nil spoiling efforts, defence conscious matches are few and far between." The World Cup cannot be *won* by these tactics but, when you have two points in the bag, the Mexicans have proved yet again that they do make qualification possible!

It is one of football's ironies that England scored eight goals against Mexico (with, it is true, Mota and not the veteran Carbajal between the sticks but it was the *openings* that made the goals) at a time when the club suspension of Greaves and an injury to Bobby Smith caused them to field a hastily improvised inside trio—including Derek Kevan in whom it seems that only John Camkin (unless he has wavered in his allegiance!) and I ever find virtue!

So to Sunday, November 12 and a further rush of World Cup qualifying matches—four of them including the first of the "play-offs." It is perhaps indicative of the intensity of the final struggle for qualification that in each of the four matches victory was only gained by a single goal margin.

In three of the matches such a narrow margin was predictable but everyone, except perhaps an optimistic Kader Firoud, anticipated that Spain would comfortably account for Morocco even though the first match was to be played in Casablanca and Morocco (much in the fashion of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland) were welcoming back native-born stars who had found success in French football. Indeed on paper the main interest of the match seemed to be the much-heralded debut in the Spanish national side of one Ferenc Puskas. (I think it might be more precise wording for football writers to refer to the English, Swedish or, for examples, U.S.S.R. *national* elevens and to the Italian and Spanish *international* elevens!)

There were 26,000 spectators at the Marcel-Cerdan Stadium in Casablanca to watch the game—and to see, not for the first time, how a skilled coach, Kader Firoud loaned to the Moroccan F.A. by the French club Nimes, can make a successful *team* from comparatively slender resources. It was the players from France around whom Firoud had to shape his strategy and all responded beyond themselves, notably Firoud's club player Bettache who, playing at centre-back, held the command in Morocco's penalty area. Not until nine minutes from the end were Spain able to score—Del Sol then headed home a centre from outside-right Aguirre. But Morocco have discovered a team manager who, given more time, can clearly build a national team of considerable ability.

Morocco

Whilst players as Bettache, Azhar, Mahjoub and Akesbi were taking time off from their French League clubs to play for Morocco, the national side of France faced their destiny at Sofia—a win or a draw against the Bulgarians would ensure their passage to Chile, defeat meant a play off.

There was little change in the composition of the two teams playing the decider in Berlin on November 12 from those who played in Berne a fortnight before. Switzerland indeed stayed content with the eleven who had won in Berne and earned the play-off. Nyholm was as usual in goal for Sweden, and Bergmark, Gustavsson and Wing the familiar rearguard. Oeberg stayed at left-half but Sandberg, right-half in Berne, moved up to inside-right with Mild coming in at right-half and Brodd moving across from inside-right to inside-left to replace Boriesson. Agne Simonsson remained at centre-forward but there was a further change on the wings—Svhan appearing at outside-left and Backmann crossing to the right. A number of positional changes in other words but only two changes in playing personnel.

As in the earlier game at Berne, Sweden started on top and got the first goal when Brodd seized upon a misunderstanding between goalkeeper Elsener and left-half, Tacchella, to fire in a terrific scoring shot from around the thirty yard mark. One-nil remained the score at half time but soon after the interval it seemed only a matter of time before the Swedes pulled further ahead—another powerful drive from Brodd beat Elsener but rebounded to safety from the crossbar. Then, surprisingly, it was the turn of the Swiss and after a storming attack right-back Schneiter came upfield to head home a deflection from inside-right, Eschmann. One-all and it was still very much anyone's game except that increasingly, a consequence perhaps of frustration and excitement, the Swedes were abandoning their team play—brilliant but ineffective individual efforts replacing combined passing movements. The Swiss continued to play steadily, methodically and in the seventy-second minute outside-left Alleman placed a corner precisely for the right-winger, Antenen, to nod into the net. There was no further scoring and Switzerland and

continued on Page 35

Barcelona's inside- or centre-forward Evaristo de Macedo (left) started his career with Flamengo in his native Brazil (for whom he holds four caps). He is now twenty-seven years old. (Metelmann 1.)

Hidegkuti heads the first goal for Hungary against Uruguay in the semi-finals of the 1954 World Cup series in Switzerland. Hungary won 4-2 before being surprisingly beaten 3-2 by West Germany in the Final.

Dr. FOLDESSY, former chief of Hungary's Federation interviews Lajos Baroti

Hungarians hope for last four

THE Hungarian game has always played a significant role in the World Cup competition and at the world championships connected with the Olympic Games, too. They were there among the nominated teams at the first Olympic tournament in 1908, although, as it was stated on the occasion of the closing ceremonies by Lord Desborough, "through the threatening danger of war" they could not make a start. At Stockholm in 1912, they lost their first game against England, who later became the champions. At the same time, however, the Hungarians were the winners of the consolation prize, outstripping Austria, Italy, Sweden and Germany. In 1924, in Paris, during the era of the sham-amateurism, the team, owing to an insufficiently prepared selection and, weakened by numerous emigrated first-class players, fell out after one victory and one defeat.

Turning over to professionalism, the Hungarians did not take part in Amsterdam in 1928, in the last world-championship type Olympic Games and, later in 1930, in the time of the first World Cup at Montevideo. In 1934, after defeating Egypt, they lost against Austria. In 1938, after defeating Korea, Switzerland and Sweden, they arrived in the final. Then Italy, heavily strengthened their team by South American players, were victorious by 4-2.

After the second World War, Hungary took no part in the London Olympic Games, neither in Brazil in 1950. Then after the unparalleled undefeated period for four years had commenced, they defeated Italy in Rome by 3-0. In 1952 at Helsinki they were Olympic winners by defeating Turkey 7-1, Sweden 6-0 and Yugoslavia 2-0. Then they continued, defeating England in 1953 at Wembley by 6-3, and in 1954 at Budapest by 7-1. The Hungarian representative team undoubtedly were the moral winners of the Swiss World Cup meetings in 1954, after defeating Germany by 8-3, Brazil 4-2 and Uruguay, after extra time, by 4-2. In the final, through several injuries and the exhausted nerves suffered in the previous games, they lost their second match against Germany by 3-2. Afterwards came the collapse. In 1956 hundreds of top-class players emigrated to foreign countries.

It was then that Lajos Baróti, an old representative football player, later the coach of the "Vasas" team with significant successes like league champions and Central European Cup victories, took over the post as captain of the Association. He had to organise an entirely fresh team and so it was only natural that at the beginning his team suffered defeat. Thus it was in the World Cup in 1958 in Sweden. He had met some early successes, in 1959 and 1960, a win over England by 2-0, Yugoslavia 4-0, Austria 2-0 and Switzerland by 8-0. The reserve (Olympic) team, in 1960, finished third after defeating the French, Peruvian and Italian teams.

Success

This past year, Baróti's team successfully began playing in the qualifying matches of the World Championship. They won against East Germany by 2-0 and Holland 3-0. They also defeated Wales in their return friendly match 3-2. In the fourth match the team unexpectedly lost against Austria in Budapest 2-1. Austria did not enter for the World Cup. This defeat had so much low-spirited Baróti, that he resigned. Later, however, at the request of the upper sport authorities he remained, but accepted his captaincy only to prepare the representative team until the end of the World Championship of 1962.

In accordance with the above, the football world which had always in the past paid special attention towards the Hungarians, may be interested to learn of the changes that will take place in future. What are the expectations and so on. This is why Lajos Baróti was asked to present his views to *World Soccer* and tell us of the reasons connected with his resignation.

"I took the position four years ago," as Mr. Baróti put it, "to organise the Hungarian representative team. At that time there was just a fragment of the old team at my disposal as numerous players have left the country. Others became old or, more nearer the truth, they had lost their representative form. With the assistance of some other club coaches I succeeded in building up a fresh and striking team, the result of which, from 1959, some encouraging signs appeared. In my work I was greatly assisted by our Football Federation, the topmost sport authorities and more or less by the different clubs, too. Hereafter there only remained the educative work of the players and their discipline, although my efforts were not always satisfactory. The appearance of such anomalies have caused the result against Wales, when the performance was only a moderate one and further the defeat by the Austrians. This is why—for the time being, I had lost my enthusiasm regarding the representative team. My clear opinion was that until the meeting in Chile of 1962 there was a full year and that such a long period will be entirely sufficient for my successor to produce satisfactory results. From various sources, from the leaders of the Association, I became persuaded to have another go. The highest sport authorities here have assured me of their entire confidence, also further, the coaches of the different clubs have promised that they will do their utmost towards improving the sportsmanship and discipline of their players. Under such circumstances I decided to continue my preparation of the representative team for the task and aim for Chile.

"After all the above, how will the Hungarian representative team prepare for the world championship?

"During the winter, the Hungarian team will be invited to South America. This will provide useful experience to accustom everyone to the environment of the continent, the climate, to see the organising country's sporting arrangements and its teams. According to the preliminary plans, our team will play in Chile twice, twice in Peru and once each in Equador and Bolivia. As far as the members of the representative selected frame, it is my strict determination to leave out all those players who are unable to live under the required life of a sportsman and replace them by talented and disciplined youngsters."

"Don't you think that the representative team should be calculated from 22 players instead of 11?"

"Such a view, I think is correct. I am of the opinion that for the representative team up to date, I already have 16 players. Those still missing I'll have to search for and find with the assistance of my coach companions."

His choice

"Whom do you think will be the eventual winning team in Chile?"

"From Europe I should take England, Italy and the Soviet Union. Western Germany still remain as a surprise. In South America, beside the Brazilian, Uruguayan and the Argentine trio, Chile might make some superb performance, assisted by the local air conditions and climate. Their development was recently proved against the Germans. On the other hand much depends on the details of grouping the teams. I am hoping that the F.I.F.A. will grant every assistance to the organising committee in bringing up the really best teams to the finals."

"What do you expect of the Hungarian team?"

"I shall be quite satisfied if Hungary are among the four leading teams."

Lajos Baróti is continuing his job quietly which he has done for the past four years. The reliable experts—among the old captains, I myself, too—we follow his work with full confidence. The material of the Hungarian game, by its hundred-thousand followers, is such a treasure that everyone concerned believes that Baróti's sharp eye will soon find the team to represent the country with all satisfaction and success.

Benfica captain Augusto, received the European Cup from F.I.F.A. President Ebbe Schwartz following their victory over the favourites Barcelona by 3-2. Benfica have been their country's representatives on two occasions in the Latin Cup competition. See full story on this page. (Planet 1.)

LAST OF THE LATIN CUP?

Has this trophy gone for good? enquires ROGER MACDONALD

WHILE the rapid growth of internationalism has inevitably caused some of the old-established competitions to fall by the wayside, it is disturbing to see that the Latin Cup has become almost extinct.

Once among the most coveted trophies in Europe, it has been overshadowed by the European Cup since the completion of the last competition in 1957.

When the Latin Cup was inaugurated by Spain and Portugal in 1949, it had no rivals in southern Europe, and the champion clubs of the Iberian peninsula, France and Italy were eager to take part.

However, the arrival of the European Cup six years later soon emphasised the Latin's shortcomings—the inflexibility of of the competitors, the duration of the competition, and the overwhelming advantage of the club staging the annual tournament.

The inflexibility of the competitors caused the organisers grave concern, for the same clubs appeared more or less year after year, as can be seen from the table below.

The competition was only open in the first place to the National Champions, but at least one club avoided this rule by purchasing their own Champions "right of entry". Encouraging regard for the value of the Latin Cup you may think, but in fact it merely served to lessen the interest in the tournament, and its financial and prestige value dropped considerably.

Furthermore, impressive as the list of entries may seem they were by no means as formidable in the heyday of the Latin Cup. Portugal was still the chopping block of European soccer; France was in decline; Italy had received a shattering blow with the destruction of Torino in the Superga air crash; and even mighty Spain, Real Madrid and all, had no super-side until the twilight of the competition.

Another obvious defect was the lack of any tangible reward in the annual tournament, for the Cup was only awarded every fourth year. Even the most ardent fan, entertained by four games—two Semi-Finals, Third Place Match and Final—in *three days*, lost interest when he had to work out the result on a national basis over *four years*. Each annual victor gained four points, the runner-up three points, and so on, but by the culmination of the second competition the overall totals were of only secondary importance to the spectators.

Nor can it be disputed that the hosts in the annual tournament had an overwhelming advantage: only on one occasion—in 1953, when Sporting lost to Milan by the odd goal—did they fail to reach the Final.

Yet despite these shortcomings, it is very disturbing to find that the Latin Cup has remained in suspended animation for over four years, if only because it offers a tempt-

Continued on page 15

FULL DETAILS OF ALL THE LATIN CUPS

1949 (IN BARCELONA)

Sporting v. Torino	3–1
Barcelona v. Reims	5–0
Torino v. Reims	5–3
Barcelona v. Sporting	2–1

1950 (IN LISBON)

Bordeaux v. AC Madrid	4–2
Benfica v. Lazio	3–0
AC Madrid v. Lazio	2–1
Benfica v. Bordeaux	2–1 (after 3–3)

1951 (IN MILAN)

AC Milan v. AC Madrid	4–1
Lille v. Sporting	6–4 (after 1–1)
AC Madrid v. Sporting	3–1
AC Milan v. Lille	5–0

1952 (IN PARIS)

Barcelona v. Juventus	4–2
Nice v. Sporting	4–2
Juventus v. Sporting	3–2
Barcelona v. Nice	1–0

	1949	1950	1951	1952	Total
Spain	4	2	2	4	12
France	1	3	3	3	10
Italy	2	1	4	2	9
Portugal	3	4	1	1	9

1953 (IN LISBON)

AC Milan v. Sporting	4–3
Reims v. Valencia	2–1
Sporting v. Valencia	4–1
Reims v. AC Milan	3–0

1955 (IN PARIS)

Real Madrid v. Belenenses	2–0
Reims v. AC Milan	3–2
AC Milan v. Belenenses	3–1
Real Madrid v. Reims	2–0

1956 (IN MILAN)

AC Bilbao v. Nice	2–0
AC Milan v. Benfica	4–2
Benfica v. Nice	2–1
AC Milan v. AC Bilbao	3–1

1957 (IN MADRID)

Real Madrid v. AC Milan	5–1
Benfica v. St. Etienne	1–0
AC Milan v. St. Etienne	4–3
Real Madrid v. Benfica	1–0

	1953	1955	1956	1957	Total
Spain	1	4	3	4	12
Italy	3	2	4	2	11
France	4	3	1	1	9
Portugal	2	1	2	3	8

Continuing with our regular series on South America: Bolivia, Chile and Peru are featured.

BOLIVIANS ARE NOW EMERGING

EUROPE is becoming so familiar with visits from Brazilian and, to a slightly lesser extent, Argentinian clubs—not that, for me, there can be too many of these visits—that it has been especially pleasant to welcome, over the past two or three months, a club from Bolivia, one of the smaller (both in size and football importance) South American countries.

I caught up with my friend, Gunther Backmann, and the Always Ready Club party when they reached England—and lost successively to Exeter, Plymouth, Southampton, Luton and Scunthorpe after drawing in the granite city. But it needs to be known in fairness to the Bolivians that these defeats came at the end of a long tour when the players were becoming somewhat jaded and travel-weary. The overall results of a tour, that has taken in Denmark, Bulgaria, Greece, France, Belgium, West Germany, Rumania, West Germany again, Scotland, England and will probably end in Spain (although any match or matches played there will have taken place after the time of writing), have been surprisingly good for a club from a small soccer country playing, not only in conditions very different from those to which they are accustomed in the rarefied atmosphere of La Paz, but against a succession of varying styles of play. Both of these conditions incidentally probably account for the fact that in many of their games, Always Ready have done better in the second-half although not well enough to regain the ground they lost in the early stages when they were finding their feet.

A typical example of this was the match they played against the West German club Altona 93—a middle-of-the-table Northern First Division side. At the interval Altona were leading by three goals to nil with two goals scored by their very useful inside-left, Klaus Sturmer, and one by inside-right Kurth. But in the second-half, the Always Ready players felt themselves more in sympathy with the tempo of play and after a quarter of an hour, Lopez—an excellent inside-forward—reduced the arrears. The Altona 'keeper, Banse, was now called upon to show his ability and the Bolivians, although left-half De Meglio scored another goal for them, were unable to quite draw level.

A HIGH RATING

In that match, incidentally, the Always Ready goalkeeper was Zamorano and he got a high rating from the German observers but in most of the matches in England it was Griseldo Gobo between the sticks for the Bolivians. Gobo is both Always Ready's and Bolivia's number one choice and a useful performer—complete with all the South American goalkeepers' love of histrionics! He played in both of Bolivia's World Cup qualifying matches against Uruguay as did Zabalaga, the left-back, and the club captain, Maximo Alcocer. Renan Lopez and Escobar each appeared in one of the two matches at inside-left but in their games for Always Ready are more likely to be found at inside-left and centre-forward respectively.

Quite an appreciable proportion of the Always Ready players—and indeed of all players in Bolivia's somewhat elastic professional ranks—are Argentinians who have come to Bolivia either to play out the final years of their careers or after finding it difficult to get regular places in the admittedly higher quality Argentinian clubs. On the other hand, native stars like Gobo and Alcocer, have resisted attempts to lure them to bigger South American countries and remained content in Bolivia. In the matches I saw it was, incidentally, the two tall Argentinian defenders, Ruiz and De Meglio, who most caught the eye in a team that possessed several players of exceptional individual ability with the ball but a curious disinterest in play "off the ball" and consequential lack of team sense. Thus attempts to score were largely individual efforts and, particularly against strong and immediate tackling, these had to be from long-range shooting. If only the superb ball-play—the ball from powerful goal-kicks, for example, cushioned against the deflated chest and slid gently down the body to the feet—could be allied to team-play designed to create openings for unmarked forwards, Always Ready (and Bolivia) would be as feared away from home as they are in La Paz!

SOUTH AMERICA

Nevertheless the tour record is, as I wrote before, a satisfying one:

Denmark v. Aalborg Boldspilklub	WON 3-1
Bulgaria v. Varna Spartak	WON 4-1
Bulgaria v. Sofia Selection	DREW 2-2
Bulgaria v. Sofia Selection	DREW 2-2
Greece v. AEK Athens	WON 2-1
Greece v. Olympiakos	DREW 1-1
France v. Lille	LOST 2-3
Belgium v. Anderlecht	DREW 3-3
Belgium v. Ghent	WON 3-2
W. Germany v. Alem. Aachen	LOST 1-2
Rumania v. Progessul	LOST 2-5
Rumania v. Bucharest Selection	DREW 2-2
W. Germany v. Altona 93	LOST 2-3
Scotland v. Aberdeen	DREW 3-3
England v. Exeter	LOST 1-3
England v. Plymouth	LOST 1-2
England v. Southampton	LOST 0-4
England v. Luton	LOST 0-5
England v. Scunthorpe	LOST 2-3

Played 19, Won 4, Drew 6, Lost 9

Having embarked with Bolivia this month it seemed to me a useful change from the Argentina-Brazil monopoly of these South American Commentaries to stay with the less well-known countries and to take a look at the present state of the game in Chile. Chile are, of course, the host country for the World Cup finals and as such are automatic qualifiers. In the past the host countries have done better in the competition than their record would have suggested and Chile have been carefully preparing for the vital matches by no means as a junior soccer nation hoping to make a favourable impression, but as a very serious contender for the champions' title.

AN EXPERIMENT

Last year they toured Europe and although the playing results were scarcely encouraging the experience was important—and when, last March, they entertained the full West German side at Santiago de Chile they won convincingly by three goals to one. This result surprised many but not the German observers who, a week previous, had watched Chile beat Peru by five goals to two.

Since then two matches have been played against Brazil (for the O'Higgins Cup)—both were won by the Brazilians but only by single-goal margins (1-0 and 2-1). More re-

Continued on page 30

Training session for the Brazilians under Aymore Moreira (back to camera). First line left to right: Bellini, Gilmar, Castilho. (P.I.)

continuing our WORLD CUP GROUPS IN DETAIL

Having dealt with some of the European Groups, ***GORDON JEFFERY*** *now turns his attention to South America's Group One*

Road to Chile is much shorter

It is also quicker for the South American countries—and not simply because the distance is less! In keeping with the history of the World Cup, next year's has certainly favoured the host Continent.

One of Argentina's best "exports" was Francisco R. Lojacono (above) who plays for Italy's Roma FC. We spot him sitting dejectedly during a recent match, staging a "one-man strike" because sections of the crowd had barracked him. He was persuaded to continue by his trainer. (Planet 1.)

WHILST the team-managers of most of the European countries entered for the World Cup have to plan for at least four vital matches—two at home and two away, often spread over a period of more than twelve months, their South American counterparts need concern themselves only with a couple of matches often played within a few weeks of each other. Then, depending upon the result, they can either settle immediately to the building of a team for the actual final stages or, if their team has been defeated, cross their fingers and hope they can persuade their officials to let them carry on with 1966 the new target date!

The road to Chile, in other words, is a shorter, quicker one for the South American countries—and not because the distance is less! Briefly one can summarise the situation in the fact that 21 leading European countries have been, and many still are, battling for seven places (I am excluding the three groups that cross with the Asian, African and Near-East Sub-groups); whereas six South American countries have three places to fight for and a seventh, Paraguay, have only to meet twice the winners of the long-drawn-out North and Central American Zone competition—Mexico.

With Brazil as the holders, and Chile as the host country, certain starters in the final, the stage was set for the other "big boys" (the only South American countries ever to have won the South American Championship), Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Peru, all to qualify. In fact there has already been one upset when Colombia were able to hang on to the advantage of their home win by drawing in Peru. Nor is it by any means certain that Paraguay will beat Mexico—despite the eight goals they conceded at Wembley their defensive play can be extremely effective and a single goal scored by themselves sufficient to win the day.

Uruguay, too, made hard work of disposing of Bolivia but, in Group One of the South American Zone, Argentina made no semblance of a mistake. The score in the first match was Argentina 6 Ecuador 3 but even that scarcely reflects the overwhelming superiority of the Argentinians. This is seen more clearly by recalling the pattern of the match itself—a penalty goal notched by right-winger Corbatta after 13 minutes' play, number two scored by his partner, Pando, two minutes later, a third from Ruben Sosa halfway through the first half and a second goal from Corbatta three minutes before the interval: four-nil at half-time!

Within five minutes of the resumption, outside-left Belen had made it five and seventeen minutes from the end, the wandering centre-half, Ramaciotti, got his name on the score-sheet—somewhat, one imagines, to the chagrin of Sanfillippo, the only Argentinian forward who failed to score. Only then, with the score six-nil in favour of the visitors, did Ecuador get a look in and, with the Argentinians easing up, in the space of five minutes near the end of the game, Raffo twice and Spencer (a star of the — unofficial — world club champions Penarol) scored for them to the delight of sixty thousand fans who had thronged to the comparatively new Guayaquil Stadium.

Maybe these fans went home with some fond hopes that Ecuador would start off in the second match in Argentina the way they had finished the first one, but, this before their own critical supporters, there was no similar "let-up" by the Argentinians and they strolled off comfortable winners by five goals to nil—Sanfillippo this time getting his goal!

These two matches were played almost exactly a year ago and during the past twelve months Argentina have been steadily preparing for the finals in Chile. An important part of the preparation was, of course, the European tour which has been already dealt with fully in *World Soccer* and a more recent match again Paraguay—won comfortably by five goals to one and referred to in this month's South American Commentary. The results of the European matches and the Paraguay match are all included in the accompanying table of Argentina's full international record.

Impressive table

It is, by any yardstick, an impressive table of success. It can, for example, be compared with the overall percentage record of the European countries already reviewed in this feature. Among them, for instance: England 68.77 per cent, Portugal 36.32, Spain 65.83, Wales 37.81, Scotland 67.37, Sweden 59.56, Switzerland 37.27, Soviet Union 76.42, Turkey 47.95, Norway 41.82, W. Germany 58.30, and now ARGENTINA 67.91 per cent.

I should mention that the difficulties I have already commented upon in the compiling of these tables for the European countries are multiplied in considering those of South America where, despite many efforts, the various national Associations have rarely been able to control the activities of their top clubs, and where personal feuds are commonplace. Add the habit of individual clubs, states and "outsiders" to invite representative XIs to play in tournaments they are organising and of the organisers to inflate the sides taking part to international status—and the result is muddle and confusion. Disconcerting to tidy-minded Scandinavian and West European minds, but entirely familiar to the Latins and South Americans.

RECORD OF ARGENTINA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	% age.
Belgium	1	1	0	0	6	3	100.00
Bolivia	8	7	0	1	36	4	87.50
Brazil	51	26	10	15	112	76	60.78
Chile	31	25	6	0	88	22	90.32
Colombia	3	3	0	0	23	4	100.00
Costa Rica	3	2	1	0	6	3	83.33
Czechoslovakia	3	1	1	1	5	9	50.00
Ecuador	9	8	1	0	43	7	94.44
Egypt	1	1	0	0	6	0	100.00
England	1	0	0	1	1	2	0.00
France	1	1	0	0	1	0	100.00
W. Germany	1	0	0	1	1	3	0.00
N. Ireland	1	1	0	0	3	1	100.00
Rep. of Ireland	1	1	0	0	1	0	100.00
Italy	3	1	0	2	2	6	33.33
Mexico	5	4	1	0	14	6	90.00
Paraguay	48	34	8	6	128	54	79.17
Peru	17	12	4	1	40	16	82.35
Portugal	4	3	1	0	8	2	87.50
Spain	4	3	0	1	4	2	75.00
Surinam	1	1	0	0	6	2	100.00
Sweden	1	0	0	1	2	3	00.00
Uruguay	147	66	32	49	242	188	55.78
U.S.A.	2	2	0	0	17	3	100.00
U.S.S.R.	1	0	1	0	0	0	50.00
Yugoslavia	1	1	0	0	3	1	100.00
	349	204	66	79	798	417	67.91

Brazil defeated Paraguay 3-2 in a bitterly fought out South American International. Above: Brazil's Joey scores a goal which gave Paraguay's goalkeeper Megerer no chance at all. From a World Cup viewpoint, Brazil, as holders, are already through whilst Paraguay, at the time of writing, are not. (Keystone.)

Personally I have been quite happy, for instance, to accept Chile's excitement at beating Argentina, for the first time in some forty-odd meetings, by four goals to two (after being two goals in arrears) nearly two years ago. But I notice—as some readers who have looked first at the table may also have already noticed—that the Argentinians have not accepted the result in *their* records and, until the time when the monumental task of cross-checking and investigating all national records can be tackled, I have been forced to take what they have offered. It is true, of course, that the particular match was played around the time when many of the South American countries were engaged in Olympic Games qualifying matches or in matches testing their amateur strength for these matches.

Few sorties

The last (1960) Olympics were as a matter of fact the first for 32 years in which Argentina had appeared and, as the overall table shows to some extent, they have not made many sorties outside of the South American hemisphere, although they were only the second of the South Americans to take part in world competitions.

The first were Uruguay who, in 1942, entered the Olympic football arena in Paris, and startled the Europeans by winning the final. Argentina joined Uruguay as standard-bearers for the New World in the 1928 Games played in Amsterdam. Chile also made a first appearance but were quickly eliminated in a preliminary round by Portugal—4-2.

The Argentine could not quite emulate Uruguay's achievement of victory in their first Olympic appearance but had they been the sole South American entrant they probably would have done so since they reached the final without difficulty beating the U.S.A. (11-2), Belgium (6-3) and Egypt (6-0) on the way. But in the final they had to play Uruguay, the conquerers of the Netherlands, Germany and Italy. The two national teams were very evenly matched and even extra time failed to bring a definite result—the score was one-all. Then in a replay, Uruguay managed to score the odd goal in three to retain the Olympic Gold Medal ranking.

The rumblings of discontent concerning the purity of the amateur status of many of the players—including those of Uruguay and Argentina—in the 1928 Olympics, and the automatic exclusion of those who were admittedly professional, gave impetus to the plans for a World Cup competition and, in deference to the superiority of South America's "Big Two" (as they were at the time) when the first World Cup competition was held two years later it took place in Uruguay. The finalists were the same as in the previous Olympic Games, Uruguay and Argentina, and the former, who included six of the players who had appeared in the 1928 Olympics final, again were the winners —this time by four goals to two.

Since then the professional game has dominated Argentinian football and the Olympics were ignored until 1960 but so, for different reasons, has been the World Cup competition. The Argentinians did enter for the second competition—the 1934 played in Italy—and qualified for the finals by beating Chile, but in Italy they lost in the 1st Round to Sweden 3-2. Then for a variety of reasons—internal political strife, frequent disagreement with the Brazilian or the Uruguayan Football Associations, or internal football dissension—they opted out of the 1938, 1950 and 1954 World Cup Competitions.

It was, I suppose, the 1950 World Cup that first opened the eyes of many to the emergence of the South American countries as, not hopeful aspirants to the first British and later European game of football, but as masters of the game. True Uruguay had enjoyed pre-war victories in both the Olympics and the World Cup competitions but in both cases the overall entries were scarcely representative of world football. The field, including England for the first time, was wider in the 1950 World Cup finals played in Brazil—and quite indisputably Brazil and Uruguay were the outstanding teams with Uruguay the ultimate winners and Brazil the runners-up.

That the excellence of the South American's play was not a phenomenon of their own environment was revealed a year later when Argentina, who because of differences with the Brazilian F.A. had not entered for the World Cup, visited Europe and were the first non-British country to play a full International match at Wembley. Everything—the weather, the atmosphere, the ground conditions—was against the Argentinians but they shocked England and the Wembley spectators when, in the eighteenth minute and in almost their first attack, they took the lead through their outside-right, Mario Boye—and held on to their lead until eleven minutes from the end when Mortenson headed home the equaliser from a Tom Finney corner. England, it is true, had been on the attack for most of the game but had found it difficult to fathom, let alone penetrate, the Argentinian defence but now they launched an all-out offensive that culminated in Milburn scoring the winning goal four minutes from the end. However Argentina had done enough to show that the South American performances in the previous year's World Cup were no flash in the pan but that their imaginative play was an advance on the stereotyped British manner. The teams for that November 1951 International are worth noting:

England: Williams (Wolves); Ramsay (Tottenham), Eckersley (Blackburn Rovers); Wright (Wolves), Taylor (Fulham), Cockburn (Manchester United); Finney (Preston N.E.), Mortensen (Blackpool), Milburn (Newcastle United), Hassall (Huddersfield), Metcalfe (Huddersfield).

Argentina: Rugilo (Velez Sarsfield); Colman (Boca Juniors), Figueras (Huaracan); Yacono (River Plate), Faina (Newell's Old Boys), Pescia (Boca Juniors); Boye (Racing), Mendez (Racing), Bravo (Racing), Lubruna (River Plate), Loustau (River Plate).

The Argentinian line-up is trebly interesting. Angel Labruna is possibly the biggest national name as a footballer. He retired in 1959 after playing for the River Plate club for 25 years—no wonder he was known as the South American "Stanley Matthews"! Perhaps the most remarkable thing about Labruna's career was that he *stayed* in Argentina whereas the general rule is for the star players to be tempted

continued on page 38

There will be another spotlight on a World Cup Group next month

AT-A-GLANCE FACTS-CHART OF THE CARIBBEAN GAME

Country	F.A. Founded	Players	Clubs	Largest Ground	Capacity	Season	Leading Club
ANTILLES	1930	2,700	30	Rif Stadium	—	All Year	—
BAHAMAS	—	—	5	Eastern Parade	—	—	Nassau
COLOMBIA	1924	19,500	400	Municipal Stadium	50,000	March-December	Millionarios
COSTA RICA	1921	1,300	35	National Stadium	60,000	May-February	Heredriano
CUBA	1929	300	15	El Cerro Stadium	55,000	All Year	Cerro
GRENADA	—	—	—	Queens Park	—	July-December	—
GUADELOUPE	1939	—	—	Gallodrome	—	—	Pointe-à-Pitre
GUATEMALA	—	3,500	55	Doroteo-Flores S.	60,000	—	Comuniaciones
BR. GUIANA	—	—	—	Municipal Grounds	—	All Year	Georgetown
FR. GUIANA	1934	—	—	Municipal Stadium	—	All Year	Cayenne
HAITI	1912	3,375	45	Lecomte Stadium	60,000	—	—
HONDURAS	1935	4,600	70	Tegucigalpa Stadium	40,000	May-December	—
BR. HONDURAS	—	—	—	Municipal Grounds	—	May-December	Belize
JAMAICA	—	—	—	Paul Magliore S.	25,000	October-March	Kingston
MARTINIQUE	1939	3,500	35	—	—	—	Forte-de-France
MEXICO	1927	75,000	350	University Stadium	90,000	March-December	Guadalajara
NICARAGUA	1931	2,500	30	Managua Stadium	40,000	All Year	Olympia
PANAMA	1937	2,100	25	—	—	February-June	—
PUERTO RICO	—	—	—	Escambron Field	—	—	Swiss Sports
SALVADOR	1935	3,300	135	National Stadium	40,000	September-January	Atlante
SAN DOMINGO	—	120	8	—	—	—	Trujillo
SURINAM	1920	1,350	25	—	—	All Year	Robin Hood
TRINIDAD	1908	3,500	100	Queen's Park Oval	20,000	July-December	St. Mary's
VENEZUELA	1932	10,000	300	Caracas Velodrome	—	—	Lasalle

Return to the Caribbean

Soccer abounds amid these tiny states, says ROGER MACDONALD

IT was reported in a Continental newspaper that the players and officials of Real Madrid were impressed by the standard of play they encountered in Central America during their close-season tour, which included a visit to Guatemala City. Although Real scored four goals against Comuniaciones F.C., the local club was unfortunate not to reply on at least two occasions. Urged on by some 60,000 spectators in the National Stadium, they used the swift but cultured style so characteristic of the Caribbean today: this obscure part of the globe is surely destined to become famous in the realm of Association Football.

If we exclude the top three of this temperate zone—Costa Rica, Colombia and Mexico—Guatemala will rank high among the nations renowned for their soccer skills. Comuniaciones provide the nucleus of the national eleven, while other players are drawn from their nearest rivals, Aurora and Municipales. The team selected for the Central American Championships of last March failed narrowly to qualify for the Finals, surprisingly losing at home to Haiti.

SUCCESSFUL SEASON

Guatemala's neighbours, El Salvador, had a most successful season, finishing second to Costa Rica in the same competition; their victories over Nicaragua (10-2!) and Honduras (5-1) were particularly impressive. Among their stars were inside-forwards Barraza and Eduardo Hernandez, who scored fourteen goals between them, while goalkeeper Aurora and centre-half Barrientos also played well.

Salvador's leading clubs, Juventud Olympica, Atlante and Mante, were expected to do well in the new Central American Clubs' Cup: however Olympia of Nicaragua emerged as the ultimate winners of a competition marred by several ugly incidents in the early rounds. Their victory was surprising in view of the national side's dismal performance in the Central American Tournament—they finished last with a goal record of three to eighteen.

Two other tiny states, Panama and Honduras, were not expected to reach the final rounds, but while the team from the Isthmus was thrashed 6-1 by Costa Rica, the latter qualified for the Final Pool and eventually took third place. Their national side, despite lacking the services of the acrobatic Salinas in goal and the speedy Grant on the wing, lost only three-nil to a Costa Rican eleven in top form. Indeed, had goal-snatcher Enamorado maintained his form of earlier matches, they might well have provided the surprise result of the competition.

Although the mainland can still boast of the finest teams in the Caribbean, soccer flourishes even in the smallest island. In partitioned Hispaniola, the Haitian Association—soon to celebrate her fifteenth anniversary—holds pride of place: she has produced magnificent players in Blaun (goal), Cadot (centre-half) and Délices (utility-forward) in recent seasons. However, San Domingo, with eight flourishing clubs around the capital of Cuidad Trujillo, is determined to challenge this supremacy in the near future.

This year Guadeloupe and Martinique are permitted to send a team to France to compete in the national cup competition, so there is great excitement in the islands. Gaudeloupe's leading clubs play at Pointe-à-Pitre, where the Gallodrome records large attendances during the season. There are about 35 first-class clubs in Martinique, the strongest being Forte-de-France F.C. They have made several visits to neighbouring countries, but as yet neither island has assembled a national team.

The Dutch Antilles, on the other hand, can field a formidable representative side: they have beaten Costa Rica and drawn with Holland and Mexico during the past year. The friendly encounter with the Dutch touring side was a far cry from the turbulent 1930s, when the colonial administration refused to recognise the Football Association for political reasons. The year 1932 saw the unique position of the body being recognised by F.I.F.A., but not by the Netherlands F.A.; however, within a year the trouble was ironed out and the game made steady progress on the island. Among the leading players are Diaz, a brilliant goalkeeper; Vos and Cruz, full-backs; and Larosa, the finest pivot in the Caribbean.

The Antilles—then known as Curacao—twice drew with an F.A. XI in 1955: this was the Englishmen's only set-back on an otherwise victorious tour. They ran riot in Bermuda, beating a representative side 11-1 and 14-1, but since then the standard of football has greatly improved. When Jack Mansell—now manager of Blauw-Wit, Amsterdam—coached them last summer, he estimated that the strongest sides had reached good Southern League standard. An arrangement with the Athletic Association allows the leading clubs to make use of the fine facilities at the B.A.A. Field.

REGULAR TOURS

Bermuda is closely associated with the British Caribbean F.A., which is centred on Jamaica; it was formed on January 22, 1957, at Kings House in the capital, after a preliminary meeting at Sabina Park two days earlier. Delegates and observers attended from Trinidad, Barbados, British Guiana, St. Vincent Grenada, Dominica and the home island, agreeing to further soccer in the West Indies by regular tours and conferences. One such tour began immediately afterwards, when Trinidad sent over her strongest eleven; they began well by defeating St. George's College and drawing with D.C.L.I., but the full Jamaican side beat them in three successive matches.

Several competitions are organised

annually within the island, the most important being the Senior League. Promotion and relegation between this, and the Reserve and Junior Leagues, two up and two down, has helped to ensure a keen struggle each season. The most popular Cup competition is the Eric Morin Cup, closely followed by the tournaments for the Manning and da Costa trophies. The winners of the latter play off for the Oliver Shield, an arrangement which has often produced a close result. In 1957 Kingston beat Munro 1-0 and 2-1, and these two clubs have remained among the most powerful on the island; other first-class clubs include St. George's, Melbourne and Clarendon College.

SCOTS IMMIGRANTS

The Football Association XI visited Jamaica during their 1955 tour, beating the national team by 7-0, 4-2 and 7-0 respectively. Jamaica provided many players for the Caribbean touring party which visited England in 1959: they recorded several good performances despite a 7-2 defeat by the full Great Britain side.

The Trinidad Amateur F.A. was formed as early as 1908, when the game was organised by Scottish immigrants; the earliest clubs were Clydesdale Casuals and Shamrock Rovers. Since that date the game has made rapid progress, with club and representative tours to Jamaica, Grenada, Martinique, Puerto Rico and British Guiana in recent years. Trinidad visited England in 1954, when a satisfactory record—5 wins; 3 draws; 6 defeats—was obtained, including a meritorious draw with a strong F.A. Amateur XI. Despite the handicap of dark evenings during the football season, an increasing number of mid-week matches are now played, and many more on Saturday afternoons. International and representative matches take place at the famous cricket arena, Queen's Park Oval, which can accommodate over 20,000 spectators. Of the hundred clubs affiliated to the association, the strongest is probably St. Mary's College.

And so to some loose ends—from tiny outposts like hurricane-wrecked British Honduras, which boasted of a fine club at Belize. I hear that one match started hours late some while ago when a change in the Rule of the Road from left to right caused chaos in the capital!

Soccer is better organised in the Guianas, where the Robin Hood club of Paramaribo are probably supreme. However, several of their best players have recently departed to Holland, and the oldest club in the territories, Georgetown F.C., may regain their former strong position. In the American-influenced Venezuela and Puerto Rico, the weaker leagues are usually dominated by one club—Lasalle and Los Millionarios respectively. However on the island commonwealth Swiss Sport Club sprang a surprise in the last competition, beating their old rivals in the Tournament Final. In common with all other important matches, such as those against visiting Trinidad sides, the game was played on the beautiful Escambron Field.

The influence of the colonial powers is still strong in the Caribbean today: it is particularly evident in the names of the leading players. Men of Iberian descent appear throughout the region, like Martinez in Nicaragua, Herrera in Costa Rica, Munoz and Aguilar in Panama; Haiti has seven players—Cadet, Crispiny, Mourin, De Rossiers, Pierre, Délices and Champagne—of French origin. And this team might well take the field at Brighton or Burnley without exciting comment: Tyrell (Panama); Davis (Panama), Wellman (Guatemala); MacDonald (Costa Rica), Samuels (Panama), Wilson (Haiti); Taylor (Honduras), Elder (Antilles), Palmer (Mexico), Gil (Antilles) and Grant (Honduras). The Caribbean is a truly cosmopolitan area of the world, with a thriving heritage of football.

UNOFFICIAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL RATING

	1960-61							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	%	*
Costa Rica	16	12	1	3	40	10	78.1	1
Salvador	6	4	1	1	18	7	75.0	2
Antilles	11	4	4	3	11	23	54.5	5
Guatemala	8	3	2	3	15	15	50.0	6
Haiti	7	3	0	4	8	18	42.9	4
Honduras	11	4	1	6	16	21	40.9	3
Surinam	4	1	1	2	7	7	37.5	–
Panama	4	1	0	3	5	11	25.0	7
Cuba	6	0	0	6	6	16	00.0	8
Nicaragua	3	0	0	3	3	18	00.0	9

* Championship Position (1961)

(Countries playing less than three international matches are not included in this unofficial rating)

THE LAST OF LATIN CUP?

Continued from page 10

ing loophole to unscrupulous pools promoters. Don't be surprised if it turns up as the trophy for the so-called "summer league" to be staged in Italy during the next close-season.

Have we seen the last of the old Latin Cup? I fear so, unless the competition can be streamlined into an annual event with the trophy changing hands each season.

It needs more matches like the pulsating Real-Benfica clash of 1957, which remained undecided until the final whistle; additional competitors of high standard; and much greater publicity.

With all these improvements, the Latin Cup might well rival the popularity of the tournaments at Paris and Cadiz.

THIS WAS SOUTH AFRICA'S BEST SOCCER DISPLAY FOR YEARS

Almost a goal by South African club Highlands Park against Durban City in the South African Club Soccer Cup final which, locals agree, was the best exhibition of football seen in the new Republic for years. Highlands won 3-2 before a crowded Rand Stadium (35,000). Our picture above shows Highland's right-winger Hughie Hill going close with a shot. The Durban players seen are, left to right, George Ryder (goalkeeper), Lionel Williams (left-back) and Ken Denysschen (centre-half). In a cut and thrust match, the two sides were drawing with eight minutes to go, then Highlands scored the winner.

The Moroccan Army goalkeeper makes a spectacular save during the match against the Portuguese Army in Lisbon. The Moroccans, however, lost 5-0. (O.)

Morocco making excellent progress

Football in Morocco has long been the national sport, and many of their star players are giving excellent service to French and Spanish clubs.

by NORMAN REICH

THE drawing of lots decided the immediate future of Morocco's soccer. After a deadlock in the World Cup play-off against Tunisia in Palermo early this year, Morocco won the ensuing draw and proceeded into the next round of the World tournament—the African zone final.

Morocco subsequently swept aside Ghana and have completed their two-match engagement with Spain with obvious results.

Football in Morocco has for a long time been the main national sport. A number of Moroccan-born players have crossed the Mediterranean to do service with Spanish and French club sides. Not much notice was taken, as the Moroccan representative side only played a handful of matches each season and consequently the top players were rarely needed. They were attracted to the Continental clubs by the generous terms offered, which were well above the top salaries available at home.

Since the Moroccan Football Association graduated as a member of F.I.F.A. in 1958, the position has changed tremendously. The domestic game has improved no end and is attracting large crowds which are bringing in greater profits to the top clubs. They are now able to pay larger inducements to their stars, making their matches infinitely more attractive.

Nevertheless, the leading lights continue to seek their fortunes overseas. Some of them are successful—others return to their former clubs.

Among Moroccan clubmen who have made a name for themselves overseas is the star Reims forward, Just Fontaine. He has achieved almost every honour open to him. Born in Marrakech, he began his career with U.S.N. Casablanca before moving on to O.G.C. Nice in 1953. He cost Reims 12-million francs when they signed him. He went on to set up a record of 13 goals for France in the final stages of the World Cup fought out in Sweden in 1958. With Reims, he has won every honour which French soccer can offer him.

Another of the Moroccan exports was Ben Barek, another inside-forward. Known in some quarters as the "Black Pearl," he represented France 17 times between 1938 and 1948. He also played for Atletico of Madrid and was so popular with the local crowds that the manager of the time, famous Helenio Herrara almost lost his job when he experimented by dropping him. He ended his playing career in the Spanish second division and has now returned to Casablanca where he is coaching.

One of Barek's finds was a 20-year-old inside-left, Azhar, who is now with Reims. Some French critics even go as far as to note a resemblance with Brazil's Didi. Azhar moves easily and confidently with the ball and has been a tremendous asset to the national side this season.

Goalscorer

At present, Nimes have the services of the Moroccan international centre-forward Hassan Akesbi. He is the most consistent goal-scorer from Africa in years. Many is the time that an opposing centre-half finds himself marking fresh air while Akesbi goes flitting into the open spaces to provide the final link-up with his forwards in front of goal. Such is his value to Nimes, that the club and his national selectors had countless wrangles over his release for important World Cup fixtures.

As a nation, Morocco is ideally situated to produce good ball-playing forwards. This she has done with unbelievable regularity. Being a country which receives more than her fair share of sunlight, the grounds are usually baked hard, and to succeed, a player has to develop his ball control to a greater extent than his counterpart on the Continent.

The domestic league championship has a habit of developing into a tense struggle to the end. The present champions, F.A.R. (the Royal Army Force club) edged out Fes et Marrakech in a fierce struggle while Oujde were third only two points behind them on 56 points.

For F.A.R., this was a tremendous triumph, as it was only their first campaign. They were formed a year ago on the suggestion of Crown Prince Moulay Hassan.

Guy Cluseau, a French player with a physical-culture instructing certificate took them in hand. His influence was soon apparent and they went from strength to strength, taking the title without a defeat. With the "champions" tag safe, they proceeded to eclipse all in the national knock-out cup tournament to complete a fine double.

They turn out in smart all-black outfits including shirts and stockings blending and are ranked with France's best semi-professionals. The side's goalkeeper is Second-lieutenant Ben Slimane, who was a fine all-round athlete. When the club was formed, he was asked to do duty under the bar for the first game until a regular goalkeeper could be secured, but he performed with such promise that the officials decided to retain him and he has now made the position his own. Such is his improvement, that he is now in line for a national "cap."

On tour

As a reward for their fine domestic feat, the ever progressive club decided to show the players some soccer on a higher level than their own, so that further lessons for the next season could be learned in the arts of the game. A tour was arranged in which all the players watched a top Spanish league match in Barcelona, a European cup-tie in Madrid between Real and Stuttgart and an international in Paris.

Included in the leading clubs in the country are Rabat F.C., W.A.C., Raja and R.A.C.

Morocco entered for the present World Cup competition on being accepted as a member of F.I.F.A. They ran into a spot of trouble almost immediately when the world body suspended them. This action was taken following the national F.A. sponsorship of a tour by a group of protesting Algerian-born French professionals who broke their contracts and flew out from Paris overnight, assembling in North Africa. Their aim was to raise funds for the Algerian Independence Organisation by carrying out a short tour of the northern countries.

F.I.F.A. immediately informed all such affiliated countries that to meet these rebel players would constitute a serious contravention of regulations. The Moroccan F.A. decided, however, to have their own way and soon found their affiliation to the International Federation terminated. After apologies on the Moroccan behalf, and reconciliation negotiations all round, their membership was restored and they were included in the World Cup draw. Incidentally, it is for this reason that Morocco was excluded from the Rome Olympic soccer tournament.

The draw for the opening stages of the seventh Jules Rimet World Cup series paired Morocco with nearby Tunisia. F.I.F.A.

Continued on page 25

On this page, pictures of two of CDNA Sofia and Bulgarian international favourites. Left: Themov Manolov and, bottom right, Panayot Panayotov. Immense improvements have taken place in Bulgarian football since the war, although, as this feature reveals, there is still room for more before Bulgaria can rank among Europe's elite. (Photos: Metelmann.)

ROOM AT THE TOP FOR BULGARIA

***ERIC BATTY** reports on the progress made by Bulgarian Football*

IN the period since the end of war in 1945 few countries have improved their football to the extent that the Bulgarians have done. Perhaps because they were certainly among the game's poor relations there was more room for improvement but whatever the reason the growth of the game, and the scope and skill of their players has risen beyond comparison.

Though Bulgarian football is thriving now as never before, they have still to establish themselves in the front rank of European soccer powers, and in particular improve upon their performances away from home. At their own Vassil Levski stadium in Sofia they would be a match for all but the very best; away from home it's still likely to be a very different outcome.

The game was first played in Bulgaria as long ago as 1896, when it proved tremendously popular in the schools that had the facilities but generally through a lack of funds the game was slow to develop. Their Football Association took twenty-nine years to follow the introduction of the game in 1923 and two years later the national league came into being.

PROGRESS WAS SLOW

Still progress was slow, for Bulgaria was largely an undeveloped agricultural country and as we have seen elsewhere it was the big industrial cities that really took to football in a big way. Powerful clubs can only develop and thrive if well supported and for this a densely populated area is vital, and it is no coincidence that the strongest clubs in Bulgaria between the wars came from Sofia, the capital, and Varna, the famous Black Sea holiday resort.

By 1939 Slavia FC (Sofia) had been champions six times and their nearest challenger for superiority was Vladislav FK from Varna, with three successes. Two other clubs from the Black Sea town, Titscha and Sokol, had each gained one honour but the other titles were shared out evenly amongst a host of Sofia clubs.

At this stage Levski, who shared the oldest club tag with Slavia (both formed in 1913), were kept in the background. They came into their own after the war though their brief spell of glory was brought to an end by the formation of the Army Club CDNA.

When the war ended, Bulgarian football existed and was popular but hardly thriving. It needed a leg up towards the top class such as could come only from a large-scale reconstruction, and the post-war Communist government provided it. A Sports Ministry developed along the lines of the Russian model, imported coaches and equipment; built new stadia; encouraged and financed the formation of new clubs, and perhaps most important of all, shepherded many of the country's best players into two clubs, CDNA and Levski.

From this point on there was a gradual but steady improvement—amply illustrated by the improvement in the performances of the national team. Between 1924 and 1944 Bulgaria played 88 full internationals and lost 50 times against 26 victories—from 1955-1961 58 encounters brought the commendable figures won 28, drawn 16, lost 14.

These figures, illuminating though they may be, don't tell the full story, for in pre-war Europe, Bulgaria seldom met any of the top countries and when they did they invariably received a hiding for their impudence. Spain thrashed them 13-0 in 1933, and undistinguished Rumania ran up seven goals against them the same year! To date Bulgaria have never met some of the top countries of Western Europe though it will surely not be long before they are granted a place on the fixture lists of the top teams. Among those who've yet to meet Bulgaria are England, Scotland, Sweden and Switzerland—and in South America—Argentina and Uruguay.

In Bulgaria's successes of recent years three players have played a vitally important part: right-half Stefan Bojkov, centre-half Simon Manolov and inside-left Ivan Kolev. These three have all represented their country more than fifty times, though Bojkov retired two seasons ago at 35. All three played for CDNA and, like the Hungarian Army team Honved, CDNA usually provide at least half the members of each representative team. Block selection helps overcome the otherwise difficult problem of welding eleven players into a team. Take seven men from one club and the other four places are relatively easy to fill, and it is obviously not so necessary to call the players together for training!

By now, after appearing in the European Cup for the past five seasons, CDNA are well known, but in Bulgaria the club is known as TDNA (Tzentralen Dom da Narodnata Armia)—the Central House of the People's Army. Formed in 1948 they have failed to win the championship only three times since

Continued on page 24

LESLIE PAGE pin-points a problem of the England selectors which is again in the limelight

WHO WEARS THE No. 9 SHIRT?

ON the Road to Chile, with the sand at the bottom of the hour glass, England team manager, Walter Winterbottom, wishes the World Cup competition had taken place last year. His England team looked much better then and the critics had not started up with their team selections. They were still happy to leave it to the men appointed to the task. The year 1962 could be a troublesome one for England's International soccer and much of it a trial for those who have laboured long to create a settled combination.

The defence appears to be fairly well settled and only injury or sudden loss of form is likely to affect the goalkeeping, full-back and half-back positions, although first-class reserves and standbys are urgently required. The forward line looks in a worse mess than a crumbly Christmas pudding dropped by the cook on the way to the table.

As ever was, it is the centre-forward berth which most worries the amateur and professional selectors. Despite the defeat, in Vienna, against Austria (3-1) how wonderful and settled did England soccer look at the end of May. There were few who would listen to the shy voices crying that, comparing assets with those available to other countries, an aurora of Alice in Wonderland hung about Mr. Winterbottom's head.

That most worrying position of all to fill was being handsomely occupied by the ample bulk of Bobby Smith, a snapper of chances, a man to convert into the sterling of goals, the sleight-of-foot geometrics performed by Johnny Haynes and Greaves, to some extent, when not engaged upon a rampage of his own. Smith leading the all-conquering Tottenham Hotspur line was the ideal man in the England number nine shirt. Smith had a tough season. He was marked and double marked every time he galloped towards a half-chance. By season's end his pace had diminished. The long League, Cup and International programme had told on the burly frame.

NO PLACE FOR SMITH

The night before Spurs Cup Final against Leicester, at Wembley, the England team met Young England at Stamford Bridge. Greaves, under club suspension, was absent and so, for more obvious reasons, was Bobby Smith. Gerry Hitchens stepped into the vacated spot. With Smith slowed down, injured in the Final, Hitchens continued in the centre of the attack against Mexico.

Smith returned against Portugal in Lisbon but Hitchens was back for the games against Italy and Austria. With the start of a new season, Smith could not reproduce his match-winning form of the previous session, could not find a place in the England side and finally found himself in his club's reserve team.

Always playing with roaming fire but, at that time, with little hope of getting into the International clique, Ray Pointer was constantly noted as a player likely to achieve full representative honours. Leading Burnley in their European Cup season, he received complimentary notices from Continental critics during his out-of-England performances.

With Smith a shadow of his former self, Hitchens departed to Italy, the selectors made bold to include Pointer in the England team. To date his record in Internationals is not outstanding and many feel he may be a player, like so many others, who does not flower away from his club side. The controversy over Pointer wages long into the night and there is much to be said on either side.

Smith represented the more static number nine, always in position and always ready to receive the through ball down the middle. Pointer likes to wander and in his perambulations may not invariably be available to convert the half-chance created by Haynes. Hitchens, so far as style is concerned, fell somewhere between these two men with a bias towards the Pointer style of play.

At the eleventh hour, England's selectors are trying to think again. Plucked from unfashionable Ipswich, enjoying their first season in English Division One soccer, a goal plunderer and maker, in the person of twenty-five-year-old Ray Crawford is the newest selection for the current problem spot. Crawford found himself promoted to a Football League side to test his representative prowess. With no one prepared to call a verdict at this stage, the England forward line in Chile is still unformed and undecided.

WORRIED FROWNS

To add to the problem, Bobby Charlton is making the schoolboy population wear worried frowns to say nothing of his club manager, Matt Busby, who had the whole of Manchester (apart from City supporters) asking when the fire and accuracy will return. Bryan Douglas, playing out of position for his club and the International team, does not appear to have enhanced his reputation, especially with the Burnley wingers Connelly and Harris pressing for further recognition.

To analogise, England are all packed and ready to go without knowing who will fill some very important spots in the party.

The list of men filling the number nine shirt for England in the last decade would remind most soccer followers, the world over, of many significant events. Some were not natural centre-forwards for their clubs or have since reverted or converted to other positions. Tom Finney took on the job at one time, so did Bobby Charlton. Ronnie Allen, Stanley Mortensen, Roy Bentley and Derek Kevan all did number nine duty but perform or performed in other forward positions.

Bentley, in fact, has operated as a half-back and is now a full-back.

Just over a decade ago, the United Kingdom in an attempt to rub out the scars of war, staged a Festival of Britain. The Football Association co-operated and also the administrative bodies of Scottish, Welsh and Irish soccer. England met Argentina and Portugal and the amendments made to the forward line in the months leading up to these events show that England's selectors have faced a front-row problem before.

MIGHTILY UNSTUCK

England needed something to cheer her up in Festival Year—1951—for the previous summer in Brazil her first World Cup entry came mightily unstuck when the team were beaten by Spain and the U.S.A. Members of that World Cup side met an F.A. Canadian Touring side at the commencement of the 1950-51 season. Mortensen led the World Cup team forwards, flanked by Finney/Mannion and Baily/Mullen. Lofthouse was centre-forward for the Tourists with Matthews/Sewell and Hagan/Hancocks on either side.

By October 7, 1950, Jack Lee of Derby County was voted into the line leadership, with Matthews, Mannion, Baily and Langton completing the line-up. Just over a week later at Blackpool when the Football League beat the Irish League 6-3, Stubbins of Liverpool acted as middleman, scoring five goals into the bargain with the assistance of Finney, Morris, Baily and Langton.

November of that year saw England's representative sides well and truly in action. Jackie Milburn (Newcastle) turned out for England against Wales at Sunderland but Lofthouse was back again just seven days afterwards when England met Yugoslavia at Highbury. A week later at Ibrok Park, Glasgow, the *status quo* was somehow maintained. Lofthouse once more wore the "red badge of courage" and Mortensen filled the inside-right position.

Four months later, in April, 1951, Nat Lofthouse was still in favour and played for the Football League against the League of Ireland. But for the all-important game England versus Scotland, at Wembley, later in the month, Stan Mortensen returned.

For the two Festival of Britain matches in May, Jackie Milburn kept the job, just about the only piece of consistency running through the entire season. Mortensen figured at inside-right against Argentina but not against Portugal.

In one season Mortensen, Lofthouse, Lee, Stubbins and Milburn handled the post with varying degrees of success. During this period the England and Football League selectors did not work together in the same way as they operate now. After the ego-shattering experiences of the previous summer, shake-ups of a major order were obviously on the cards and an attempt was being made on all sides to sort through available players and arrive at a balanced side.

Strange to think that after the planning and organisation put in over the past four years, England still find themselves in a situation of not having a tried, trusted and on-form centre-forward to lead the World Cup team. There is still time and suggestions are not hard to make.

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EUROPE

Group I

Surprise qualifiers in this group were undoubtedly Switzerland, who forced a play-off with Sweden which they won 2-1 in West Berlin. Earlier they had recorded another odd goal win in Berne over the Swedes which gave them this opportunity of a second chance. Belgium quickly lost interest in the group. Had goal average entered into the reckoning, of course, Switzerland would have been eliminated. ■ **SWITZERLAND qualify.**

FINAL GROUP I

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Sweden	4	3	0	1	10	3	6
Switzerland	4	3	0	1	9	9	6
Belgium	4	0	0	4	3	10	0

Play-off: Switzerland beat Sweden 2-1.

Group II

Deadlock again where goal average would have placed France in the final stages in Chile without the extra game with Bulgaria. Thanks to a last minute goal for Bulgaria in Sofia, the Frenchmen were taken to a play-off which at the present time has not been decided upon. Finland lost all four matches and were eliminated. ■ **BULGARIA** or **FRANCE qualify.**

FINAL GROUP II

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
France	4	3	0	1	10	3	6
Bulgaria	4	3	0	1	6	4	6
Finland	4	0	0	4	3	12	0

Group III

West Germany were not seriously extended by either Greece or Northern Ireland. Only surprise came in the close margin of wins the Germans recorded at home to both countries—in each instance they succeeded by the odd goal of three, though they were actually not extended by any of their matches, except the Belfast game with Northern Ireland. ■ **WEST GERMANY qualify.**

FINAL GROUP III

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
W. Germany	4	4	0	0	11	5	8
N. Ireland	4	1	0	3	7	8	2
Greece	4	1	0	3	3	8	2

Group IV

Although the Holland–East Germany match was not played due to difficulties over travel visas, as this had no bearing on the final group winners—already known as Hungary—this game will not be played. Hungary dropped one point only, rather strangely in Budapest against Holland. But by then, of course, they had virtually assured themselves of reaching Chile. ■ **HUNGARY qualify.**

FINAL GROUP IV

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Hungary	4	3	1	0	11	5	6
Holland	3	0	2	1	4	7	2
E. Germany	3	0	1	2	3	6	1

Holland v. East Germany not played.

Group V

Turkey proved strong opponents to Russia, although the Soviet Union played extremely well to win all their four matches. Norway were again right out of the running, losing twice each to both opponents. Russia clinched the group with their 2-1 success in Istanbul. A win for Turkey, naturally, would have caused yet another play-off. ■ **RUSSIA qualify.**

FINAL GROUP V

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Russia	4	4	0	0	11	3	8
Turkey	4	2	0	2	4	4	4
Norway	4	0	0	4	3	11	0

Group VI

Just when it appeared that everything woul rest on the return match in London betwee England and Portugal to decide this group quali fier, unfancied Luxembourg came along an shocked Portugal 4-2, having lost 6-0 previousl in Lisbon. The highest score in the competitio so far was recorded when England defeate Luxembourg 9-0. England won 2-0 against Po tugal. ■ **ENGLAND qualify.**

FINAL GROUP VI

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
England	4	3	1	0	16	2	
Portugal	4	1	1	2	9	7	
Luxembourg	4	1	0	3	5	21	

Group VII

Italy and Rumania were originally paire with the winners to meet the Near East Zo qualifiers. Rumania withdrew, leaving Ita alone. They met Israel and had home and awa successes against them. ■ **ITALY qualify.**

FINAL GROUP VII

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Italy	2	2	0	0	10	2	
Israel	2	0	0	2	2	10	

Group VIII

Play-off between Czechoslovakia and Sco land which the Scots forced with a 3-2 wi Again the third member of the group, Republ of Ireland, were very much out of the hunt a lost all four matches. Had goal average be included Czechoslovakia would have qualifi comfortably. ■ **SCOTLAND** or **CZECHOSL VAKIA qualify.**

FINAL GROUP VIII

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Czechoslavakia	4	3	0	1	16	5	
Scotland	4	3	0	1	10	7	
Rep. Ireland	4	0	0	4	3	17	

Group IX

Spain and Wales played off with each oth with the victors meeting the winners of African Zone. Spain won at Cardiff, but Welsh gave a plucky display in Madrid to h the Spaniards to a 1-1 draw. In the first match Casablanca, Spain scored the only goal the game against Morocco. ■ **SPAIN MOROCCO qualify.**

FINAL GROUP IX

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Spain	2	1	1	0	3	2	
Wales	2	0	1	1	2	3	

HOW THE SIXTEEN FINALISTS WILL LINE UP

Group 1 (Arica)

May 30	May 31	June 2
a — b	c — d	a — d
June 3	**June 6**	**June 7**
b — c	a — c	b — d

Group 2 (Vina)

May 30	May 31	June 2
e — f	g — h	e — h
June 3	**June 6**	**June 7**
f — g	e — g	f — h

Group 3 (Santiago)

May 30	May 31	June 2
i — j	k — l	i — l
June 3	**June 6**	**June 7**
j — k	i — k	j — l

Group 4 (Rancagua)

May 30	May 31	June 2
m — n	o — p	m — p
June 3	**June 6**	**June 7**
n — o	m — o	n — p

Quarter-finals: June 10 at Arica, Vina, Santiago and Rancagua.
Semi-finals: June 13 at Vina and Santiago. Match for **third** and **fourth place:** June 16 at Santiago and the **Final:** June 17 at Santiago.

● **The sixteen finalists are lettered from a to p inclusive and the venues are given in parentheses.**

The picture at the top of these pages is an aerial v of the Antafagasto stadium in Chile which was origi to have been one of the main centres. On the ri extensive improvements are being made to the Sant Stadium where the grand final will be staged.

THE END of THE ROAD to CHILE

This magazine, more than any other, has closely followed the progress of the World Cup qualifying rounds over the past eighteen months. Now, with the finalists all but known as we go to press, we publish a potted summary of all that has happened in this, the sport's top competition.

Next month, in Santiago, the organising committee of the World Cup tournament will meet to make the draw for the final rounds. Then, starting on May 30, the four final groups of four will play-off until, on June 17, the winners of the current world championship will be decided. The material on these two pages will serve as an at the fingertips guide and provide readers with all the latest information prior to the commencement of the final rounds.

Group X

Yugoslavia and Poland clashed to decide who should meet the Asian Zone qualifier. After a narrow win 2-1 in Belgrade, the Yugoslavs did well to draw in Warsaw. In the first match with South Korea, Yugoslavia had no difficulty in winning 5-1. ■ **YUGOSLAVIA** or **SOUTH KOREA qualify.**

ASIAN ZONE

Indonesia withdrew from this zone, leaving South Korea to defeat Japan in order to meet Yugoslavia as above.

AFRICAN ZONE

Section I

Both the Sudan and Egypt withdrew from the group, which was declared forfeit.

Section II

Morocco and Tunisia each had one win against each other and drew the decider. As their goal averages were the same in the original group, lots were drawn and Morocco luckily won through.

Section III

Ghana finished ahead of Nigeria, taking three points from the two matches.

Final Pool

Morocco drew in Accra 0-0 and scored the only goal of the return match with Ghana for the right to meet Spain.

NEAR EAST ZONE

Cyprus held Israel to a draw at home but were decisively beaten away. Israel then met Ethiopia twice in Israel but only had odd goal wins. Had they played in Addis Abbaba, they might well have been forced into a play-off.

SOUTH AMERICAN ZONE

Group I

Argentina strolled to the finals with comfortable wins over unfancied Ecuador. They became the first to qualify for the Chile final stages. ■ **ARGENTINA qualify.**

Group II

Bolivia did extremely well to draw in La Paz with Uruguay and only lost 2-1 in Montevideo. Bolivia have certainly improved their soccer standards in the past ten years. ■ **URUGUAY qualify.**

Group III

Peru were surprisingly eliminated by Colombia who won 1-0 in Bogota and held the Peruvians in Lima, much to the astonishment of South American opinion. ■ **COLOMBIA qualify.**

Group IV

Paraguay failed to eliminate Mexico, who had to play more games than any other country in order to qualify for the finals. After winning 1-0 in Mexico, the Mexicans defended stoutly in Ascuncion and earned themselves a goal-less draw! ■ **MEXICO qualify.**

(South American Zone)

FINAL GROUP IV

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Mexico	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Paraguay	2	0	1	2	0	1	1

NORTH AMERICAN AND CENTRAL ZONE

Section I

Canada withdrew and Mexico overcame the U.S.A.

Section II

Costa Rica finished ahead of Guatemala and Honduras in this pool.

Section III

Antilles qualified at the expense of Surinam.

Final pool

Mexico just managed to win the play-off group with Antilles and Costa Rica for the right to meet Paraguay.

Geoff Sidebottom the Aston Villa goalkeeper finds himself entangled in the back of the net after making a spectacular save during an English league game. He enlists the aid of the referee, and his colleague John Sleeuwenhoek (No. 5). As a result of this Sidebottom badly hurt his back but continued to play. (W.I.)

BRAZIL TO RETAIN THEIR WORLD TITLE?

suggests KENNETH WOLSTENHOLME who also discusses that tricky 'seeding' problem

THERE is a rumour going around that the South Americans are going to rig the World Cup draw so that the whole competition will turn into a South American fiesta.

The Organising Committee, so we are told by those who "know", will fix things so that countries like Brazil will be able to waltz through to the quarter-finals of the competition. The sixteen qualifiers will not be put into a hat and drawn in the manner of, say, the European Cup.

Frankly, I hope they are not. What a farce it would be, for instance, if we had a group containing Brazil, Argentina, Spain and England, and another containing Chile, Mexico, France and Colombia.

That could happen with an out-and-out draw, but it would ridicule the competition so many people call the World Championship.

Two nations from each group will go into the quarter-finals, so how ridiculous if one group contains four strong nations, another group four weak ones.

In Britain, the sudden-death knock-out principle is liked by most football fans, but surely no one would advocate that such an important contest as the World Cup should be decided on such a basis. The World Cup is supposed to produce the world champions, and a straight knock-out competition will never do that.

Nor will a competition in which all the strong nations are drawn together at the start. There must be some form of "seeding", and just as the leading European nations should be kept apart in the first round, so should the leading South American nations.

As I write, the full list of qualifiers is not known. What is known is that there will be six South American nations — Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Mexico and Uruguay—and 10 European nations.

Of Europe's representatives, the western part of the continent will be the stronger, so it should not be difficult for the organisers to arrange for eight seeds—two for each group. This will leave the way open for surprises—in 1954, remember, the non-seeded West Germany went on to win the competition—but it will also prevent weak nations being put in a false position by the stronger nations being forced to knock each other out.

The venues for the final stages were selected with a view to certain qualifiers. Arica, for instance, was chosen because it is near the Peruvian border and the organisers expected Peru to qualify.

They did not, so now Arica is the least popular venue. Yet Mr. Carlos Dittborn, the President of the Organising Committee, tells me that if he were in charge of a European team he would be glad to go North to Arica, 1,400 miles from Santiago. Arica is at sea level, the climate is good, and although there is never any rain, the Chileans have managed to provide lush grass pitches and training grounds.

If that seems impossible, think of Lima, Peru. There it doesn't rain, yet the English players voted the pitch at the National Stadium Lima as good as Wembley.

It is almost certain that Brazil, the holders, will play at Vina del Mar. They have, in fact, already booked their training quarters!

My guess is that England will play in Santiago, and that in the same group as England will be Chile. Whatever we might think of England's chances, the fact remains that the name of England is still a drawing card, and the Chileans are anxious to have what they call the "Mother of Football" playing in their capital.

Many Europeans are anxious about the Chilean climate, but they have no need to worry. The World Cup will be played during the Chilean winter, and the average temperature will be around 60 to 65 degrees. That should be just right for the Northern Europeans, maybe a little too cold for the Southern Europeans.

Some of the qualifiers have already decided to go and see for themselves. West Germany have already been to Chile to test out the conditions, and Hungary are there now.

Spain, of course, know all about conditions in South America, and their players are so accustomed to playing in foreign climates that they shouldn't be worried at all. And Italy have so many players of South American extraction that the World Cup will be like a home fixture for them!

Forecasts are still flying around as to who will win in Chile, and difficult—almost impossible—though it is to forecast in the World Cup, everyone seems to have made Brazil hot favourites to repeat their 1958 triumph. In fact one bookmaker I spoke to would only give me 3-1 ON Brazil.

That seems rather miserable odds for a competition which has always proved the death of favourites. Brazil, remember, were hot favourites in 1950 and lost. The same fate hit Hungary in 1954. Only 1958 went according to form.

No less a person than Pele is counselling caution about assessing Brazil's chances. He feels that there are European nations who are just as good technically as his own country.

Pele is entitled to his opinion, but Brazil must have gone back a lot if they cannot beat the best in Europe. Mind you, Pele has probably spotted the danger of over-confidence, the disease which beat Brazil in 1950.

Over-confidence or no over-confidence, my tip is still Brazil.

Finally, a word of congratulation to Mr. E. O. Riain, the District Judge, who is Chairman of the Football Association of Ireland. He was chief of the Irish party which went to Prague for the World Cup match recently, and that game coincided with the 60th Anniversary of the formation of organised football in the territories which now form Czechoslovakia.

I heard him speak at the Congress which celebrated this anniversary and also at the post-match banquet. And Mr. Riain paid the Czechs the compliment of speaking in their own language. At the banquet he spoke in Czech, English and Gaelic.

Mr. Riain cannot speak Czech, but he told me: "I always think one should speak in the language of the hosts. So if I don't speak the language, I learn how to pronounce the letters, get my speech translated and then read it phonetically."

A story from Scotland

by KEN MONTGOMERY

Bob Thyne is the newest member of Scotland's seven-strong selection committee and he does not try to hide the fact that he has been impressed by Scotland's performances of the immediate past and of things likely to be achieved in what promises to be a most exciting future.

Thyne's appointment will help

THEOPHRATUS it was who told us: "Time is the most valuable thing a man can spend." On the assumption that he was right—and who am I to even think of disagreeing with that learned Greek gentleman?—I would venture to suggest that Mr. Robert B. Thyne, youngest and most recently appointed member of the Scottish F.A. Selection Committee, has spent his most precious possession both wisely and well these last few months.

It was only in June, 1961, that Mr. Thyne, director in a firm of car dealers, became a member of the seven-strong selection team. In the few months since, however, he has made it most clear that he does not intend to be carried; that he will be no passenger, but will be in there punching with his full weight in an effort to restore Scottish football to the pinnacle position in the world game.

To some it may seem early yet to be considering what, if any, effect this new boy has had on the Scottish international side. To me it is not. Since learning in June of his appointment as S.F.A. Selector—the news came as he toured America and Canada with Kilmarnock F.C., of whom he is a director—Bob Thyne has had few moments he has been truly able to call his own. Out and about every week-end, and every other Wednesday, he has been piling up the mileage and, at the same time, a first-hand knowledge of just about every footballer Scotland is likely to call on at international level, whether he be performing as far south as London or in northerly Aberdeen.

The Metropolis, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Nottingham and across the Irish Sea—he has made all of these trips on at least one occasion in the last six months, some even oftener. Scottish grounds have not been ignored either, neither he nor his six colleagues on the Selection Committee having been convinced that Scotland has been completely pillaged of all her finest players.

Alas, Appollo not having been available to bestow the gift of prophecy on me, I cannot claim with any degree of certainty that Scotland will, by the time this is read, have won a place in the play-off stages of the World Cup Finals in Chile.

Whether or not the Scots were successful, however, there can be no denying that they had been just that in their previous ventures on the international field this season, Ireland, Wales, the Italian League and, of course, the Czechs themselves will, I feel sure, be among the first to agree.

It is perhaps significant, at least I am inclined to look at it in this light, that all these successes have been won since the month of June, when new selector Thyne came on the scene.

Only a few short weeks before, let us remember, there had been that nightmare at Wembley, Scotland thrashed 9-3 by England and before Her Majesty the Queen. This was followed almost immediately by another heavy defeat in Bratislava in what was later to prove the first of Scotland's three World Cup encounters with Czechoslovakia.

It must be admitted, therefore—and no matter the outcome of the most recent joust with the Czechs, be it good or bad—that Scotland has, in recent times, picked up the remnants of the pride they had seen shattered at Wembley and in Bratislava. It would hardly be the done thing to try to suggest that all credit for this should go to Bob Thyne. He would be the last person to want it so, for the six other selectors, and team-manager Ian McColl, have also played their parts nobly. There seems little doubt that he must have brought some new ideas to the selection room, however: ideas which are bearing fruit.

Scotland's most recent run of success should not perpetuate the impression that they have become, almost overnight, something of a super team. They have been blended into something which can truly be described as a "team", however, and that, after all, is the basic essential which had for so long been elusive.

In conversation with Bob Thyne a few days after Scotland's 2-0 victory over Wales, it was significant how this word "blend" seemed ever with us. Thyne, never a matinée idol in his fifteen years as a professional footballer, but a more than competent stopper-type centre-half with Darlington and then Kilmarnock, is as go-ahead off the field as he ever was on it. His greatest claims to fame during his playing career were his three war-time caps, which he won while with Darlington. It appears he can make an even greater contribution to Scottish football in his present berth, however.

It may not be strictly accurate to apportion all credit to Bob Thyne for the re-emergence in the Scottish side of John White, the brilliant Tottenham inside-forward who must, on present form, rank among his country's four really world-class players (the others being wing-halves Crerand and Baxter, and inside-forward Law). He must be given a large slice of the credit, though.

At the beginning of the season, he recalls, he took it on himself to watch 'Spurs in action. "From the reports I was receiving from people I had once played with, I couldn't follow why this fellow White hadn't been a success with Scotland," he says. "I took it on myself to go and see White in action, to watch his every move."

The Thyne reports must have been favourable indeed, for the "ghost", as White's elusive tactics have had him tagged, has been something of a revelation since he came back into the side.

Others have been watched, scrutinised just as closely. Have the long hours of travel justified themselves? "Without a doubt," says the forthright Mr. Thyne. "The point is you just cannot pick a team unless you see all the different types of player at your disposal in action. You can read about them in the Press, hear favourable reports, but. . . ."

"You can't judge if their style will blend effectively with the rest of the team?" I came back.

"Exactly," was the reply. "The players are actually amazed at themselves. Each plays the same type of game he does with his club—only at a higher level, if you see what I mean. Scott of Rangers is an excellent example. Some people are talking about miracles having been performed with the Scottish team since the start of the season.

Continued on page 34

Bob Thyne, subject of the feature on this page is seen (right hand side) chatting to fellow Kilmarnock director Willie McIver. Mr. Thyne is the youngest and newest member of the Scottish F.A. Selection Committee.

FOULING BY OBSTRUCTION

***HARRY BROWN** highlights a disturbing trend adopted by many national coaches*

NATIONAL soccer coaches throughout the world are all working with one end in view—to evolve new techniques of ball screening and obstruction. And each one coldly calculated to confound the unsuspecting referee.

That was the slightly alarming news given by English F.A. Coaching Director and England team manager Walter Winterbottom to a gathering of referees at Leicester recently.

"The shade of difference between natural obstruction and a foul is so slight that the problem is a worrying one," he said. And added: "There are now twenty-seven varieties of fouling by obstruction."

Mr. Winterbottom showed concern that some of these techniques were now creeping into English soccer where incidents were occurring that were unknown ten years ago.

Obviously he is right to give these warnings and is doing a fine job of work with his film clippings of the type of thing for which every referee must be on the alert.

But isn't the whole thing much deeper than this? Aren't these facts even more disturbing when one considers the future development of the game?

For the truth is that the rest of the world is developing away from the interpretations the English place on the game their country evolved and developed.

The Laws of Football plainly allow for the direct shoulder charge . . . the sliding tackle which takes the ball cleanly, and the direct tackling as seen in Britain.

But the world game is developing on different lines. With the accent on ball manipulation world soccer has been able to by-pass and out-mode, to a great degree, the bodily contact which has been the common denominator of play in Britain for a century.

Quick ball manipulation and the short-passing distribution demanded a new countering technique.

Clumsy shirt-pulling was, in the beginning, the basic facet of Continental and South American defensive interception.

But nowadays the mode is far more clever, far more worrying. Mr. Winterbottom demonstrated at this lecture at which I was present, the various screening and obstruction techniques.

Without models and film examples it is extremely difficult to convey the varying shades of cunning employed . . . but Britons have already noticed the screening techniques coming into the British game.

Note, nowadays, how players in possession immediately place their bodies between ball and opponent. The direct tackle is made innocuous by the simple expedient known as "The Crab" . . . for players no longer tend to meet face to face.

Watch, too, for the clever-running players with an opponent at his side or to his rear.

How much longer will we be able to applaud the beautifully-timed slide tackle—one of the most difficult challenges in the game?

For now one finds that the ball carrier checks almost imperceptibly in his stride so that the man behind is caught off-balance by a tactic that is foul but unobtrusive.

Dropping balls produce more problems. The neat body check in the air invariably catches a referee unawares, and is neatly

Continued on page 34

West Germany's inside-right Herrmann falls to the ground after being stopped by Northern Ireland's half-back Neill during an elimination game for the forthcoming soccer world championships in which West Germany defeated Northern Ireland in Berlin last May by 2-1. (Planet 1.)

ROOM AT TOP FOR BULGARIA

Continued from page 17

their inception (!) and are now on their way to the ninth league championship in successive seasons. All told they've been champions 11 times in 14 attempts.

The present set-up is topped by a first division of 14 clubs with two second divisions of similar strength. Below them the competitions fan out with automatic promotion and relegation for all in regional competitions that cater for more than 120,000 registered players. The league is still dominated by Sofia as it has always been and a new industrial centre Plovdiv. Lokomotive, Slavia, Spartak, Levski and CDNA from Sofia—Botev, Lokomotive and Spartak from Plovdiv.

Crowds vary from 5,000 or 6,000 at the poorer games to a capacity 52,000 at the Vassil Levski stadium in Sofia where all the top league matches and internationals are played, and even the smallest village now has its own football team.

ESTABLISHED

Administered by the Central Sports Committee football is now firmly established. Professionalism is not recognised though like the clubs in neighbouring Socialist countries Bulgarian officials do their best to find good jobs for their players. The Stadia are built by the Committee, and maintained at public expense. The income from matches is shared between the two clubs and the local sports section which fosters the less popular sports and games among the youth of each locality.

The development of young players receives a high priority in Bulgaria. Courses of training are arranged for promising players and special efforts are made for the now annual UEFA Tournament. Bulgaria won this Youth series when it was staged in Sofia in 1959 and very soon several very talented youngsters from this team should find their way into the senior representative sides. Encouraged by their success in the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games when they finished third in the football tournament and were only beaten by Russia the eventual winners in the semi-final (2-1), Bulgarian officials are optimistic about their future.

INFLUENCE

The Bulgarian coaching schools have clearly been influenced by their Central European neighbours. The football produced by their top clubs shows this very clearly for though they can produce classical approach play their finishing is frequently inferior. Of the present crop of players only Kolev is a regular goalscorer, and it is true to say that if he fails—Bulgaria fails! Positional play and technical skill are facets of the game that obviously come easily to the Bulgarians—shooting hard and often; hitting the ball first time no matter how it comes is on the hand quite alien.

To see the national team in action is to be reminded forcibly of the great Hungarian side of a few years ago. The approach play is imaginative and impeccable; the moves open out smoothly on the final run into goal and there the comparison ends, because the Bulgarians haven't the same instinctive feeling for goals that the Hungarians acquired. If and when it does come—watch Bulgaria.

Morocco making excellent progress

continued from page 16

stipulated that the home and away fixtures had to be completed by the end of September last. For the first match, the two sides took the field as follows:

Morocco: Labied; Alaoui, Bettache; Amido, Tibari, Cenaya; Khalfi, Chicha, Akesbi, Azhar, Abdallah.

Tunisia: Zarga; Rouat, Tawfik; Chatali, Seghir, Badi; Naji, Mebbed, Tlecani; Chif, Moncef.

Morocco soon took the upper hand and two goals from Akesbi gave them a well-deserved 2-1 win. The second encounter saw Tunisia reverse the score with goals in the opening minutes of each half from Moncef and Chif. Chicha equalised the two-match aggregate with a late goal and with a blank score-sheet in extra time, a play-off was billed for Palermo on the island of Sicily on January 22, 1961. F.I.F.A. ordered that a decision must be reached at this match as the game was already being played well after the deadline previously set.

In the meantime, both Tunisia and Morocco had met East Germany in friendly internationals. Tunisia were well out-played and defeated 3-0 but Morocco gave a tremendous battle to the Germans before being shaded 2-3. Akesbi it was who was once more on target. He fired in both the Moroccan goals. Another of the Moroccan exports, centre-half Tibari, now with the French first division side Racing of Paris, gave a particularly pleasing performance in this match. Even although the German centre-forward Ducke netted the second, it was perhaps the only danger move he made while he was closely marshalled throughout the game.

Favourites

Tunisia added to her supporters' worries when, in an experimental test for her national side against Malta, she went under by the only goal of the game. Morocco then went into the Palermo tussle slight favourites.

She made five changes from her previous side which lost in Tunis. Labied was replaced under the bar with Bagyar, Mustapha came in for Alaoui at full-back, while Larbi filled Cenaya's right-half berth. Another of the fine crop of Moroccan forward starlets, Lamari, was drafted into a reshuffled front line which left out Abdallah. Morocco went into an early lead but Tunisia hit back in the second half to equalise. Extra time again produced no change to the score and so a decision between the two captains was the only answer. The Moroccans chose correctly and the tie with Ghana in the next round was theirs.

Of the French professionals whom Morocco could call on for the game in Accra, only Reims obliged by releasing Azhar. The Moroccan side therefore showed several changes and so it may be of interest to note the teams for this important tie. They were:

Ghana: Ankrah; Crentsil, Simons; Mama, Odamatey, Aikins; Yara, Mfum, Gyamfi, Acquah, Salisu.

Morocco: Lahkrissi; Ididi, Mekki; Amer, Hamidu, Mastapha; Lamani, Mohktatif, Loafif, Baba, Azhar.

Because of injuries, several of the leading home players were also not available and so this was almost a second string side.

Moroccan International Hassan Akesbi now plays in the French First Division for Reims. Many of his countrymen are with other clubs in France and Spain.

They still came away from Accra with a share of the spoils in a goalless draw.

For the return, Morocco were at full strength once more, and the only goal of an exciting duel was sufficient to see them through into the next round.

Meanwhile, Spain had eliminated Wales and the draw brought the North Africans together with the star-studded Spaniards.

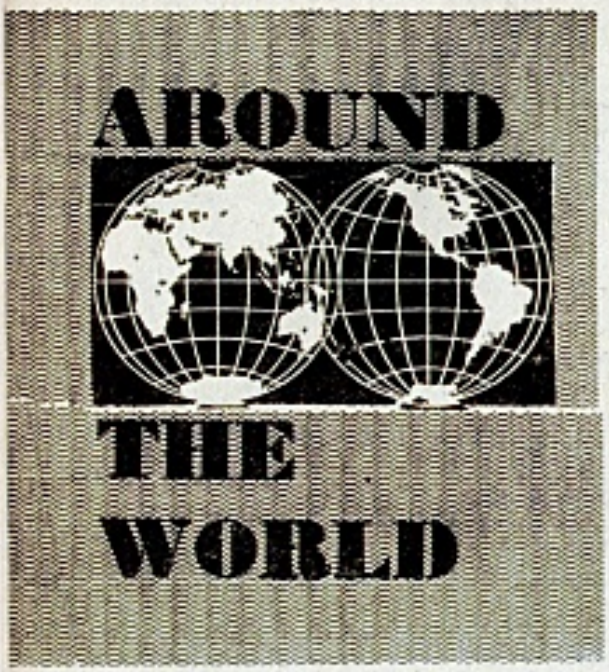
Over the last year, Morocco have met the Spanish "B" side at home and away. At home, in a tight game, they drew 3-3. In the return, the Moroccans looked well beaten by half time, with the home side riding on a four-goal lead. Yet they still came within an ace of snatching a draw with three quick goals in the second half, when they completely controlled the run of things. Included in the Spanish combination were Ruiz Soso and Mateos, both of whom gained caps against Austria and England last season, and Pareda, who took the field against the Austrians only. Pepillo and Dominguez have also subsequently worn the red and black of their national side, so that the Spanish side they meet in the coming months will not entirely be strange to them.

Over the past eighteen months, Morocco has considerably enhanced her reputation in Europe. Amongst her notable achievements have been a victory over East Germany in Liepzig, 2-1, and the holding of the European Nations Cup winners, Yugoslavia, to 3-2 in Belgrade—a feat which England could not manage the last time they appeared there.

A Yugoslav and several French coaches have been employed to prepare the internationals for the stern test before them. In addition, the F.A. has banned any further exports of local talent and has made it quite clear to French and Spanish clubs that any players called upon must be released immediately.

This is the type of planning one associates with a top national side, and it may well be soon that Morocco will not simply be looking back on the past year-and-a-half as the climax of her national achievements —but as a stepping stone to the stars where the sky's the limit.

Although it has frequently been said before, this serves to underline the fact that the African continent as a whole, be it north, south or central, is one of the up and coming soccer communities of tomorrow. Moreover the future looks decidedly bright.



The ninth International Games for the Deaf took place in Helsinki during the summer and Great Britain won the title. The British team, in the above picture, is playing Turkey and they ran out easy 13-1 winners. The Turkish goalkeeper and his right back are seen defending on the line. (Planet.)

RUSSIA

On Top

DYNAMO Kiev finally clinched their claims to the championship and finished four clear points ahead of Torpedo Moscow, the runners-up. Dynamo Kiev 45 points, Torpedo 41, Spartak Moscow 40, ZDSA 38, Lokomotive 36. Only one of the new champions' players is well known and even he is doubtful for the trip to Chile. Out of favour with the selectors since he played with distinction in the 1958 World Cup in Sweden, Yuri Voinov is the driving force behind his club's success.

Kiev's success takes the championship out of Moscow for the first time—and to emphasise the decline of the capital's top clubs Schaktor Stalino beat Torpedo 3-1 in the Cup Final! Torpedo, who did the double last season, thus completed a runners-up double this term and will be spending part of the winter on a tour of the Far East.

Dynamo Kiev recently undertook a tour of England, playing Everton, Aston Villa and Arsenal while in the country. Last year Tbillisi Dynamo made the journey.

GHANA

Sticks

A NEW rule produced by the Ghana Football Association insists that all first division clubs must organise hockey teams as part of the normal club activities and stage their hockey team's matches immediately before the football kick-off! Failure to run a hockey team satisfactorily, says National Sports Director Ohene Djan, will show that the club is unworthy of a place in the first division—and will be omitted from the top flight next season!

While the Ghana Black Stars were on their comprehensive European Tour, talks were held in Moscow which will send at least one top class club from Russia on a reciprocal visit to Ghana.

PARAGUAY

Cup defeat

THREE clubs tied for top place at the end of the Paraguayan League championship —Olimpia (winners for the last five seasons), Cerro Portero and Luqueno Central. As goal average does not count, test matches will decide the championship. The latest World Cup news affecting Paraguay is that they were beaten 1-0 by Mexico and must win the return match in Asunscion to earn a play-off. Stars of the Mexico City match, where few visiting sides ever win owing to the high altitude of the city, were goalkeeper Mayereggor and new 19-year-old centre-forward star, Leiva, who has already drawn offers from Argentinian and Italian clubs.

FRANCE

Poor Paris

ROGER Marche—"the old war horse" of French football, has quit Racing Club de Paris and will play in future as a reinstated amateur in the North Eastern League. Thirty-seven years old and the most capped French player with 63 honours, he has been wanting to step down for some time past. Unfortunately for Racing they still have no adequate replacement and though they spend more money and get better gates than any other club in France their fans will have to wait at least one more year before they see the championship trophy again. Only once has the championship gone to a Parisien club, when Racing won it way back in 1936!

Another former Racing star in the news is Thadee Cisowski, the league's leading scorer in 1956-57-59. Transferred to Valenciennes he has been unable to have a game with his new club and after several months, during which he threatened to give up the game, he was completely inactive. Now Nantes have signed him to replace their young leader called up for national service.

With finance and attendances still the number one problem for French football, one of their leading papers asked a cross-section of women when the games should be staged. Sixty-five per cent said mid-week under floodlight—five per cent voted for Saturday afternoons!

SWEDEN

Paid stars

REPRESENTATIVES from all the top clubs attended a meeting in Goteborg to form a Footballers' Association. Main objective of the new body is to open negotiations with the F.A. to introduce professionalism, but the chances of success are slim indeed. The F.A. have made no secret of the fact that they prefer the status quo—and even part-time professionalism is out.

One of Sweden's longest serving "exports" is Lennart Skoglund, better known as Nacka. Though still only thirty-two, Skoglund has spent the last eleven seasons in Italy with Internazionale and Sampdoria (Genoa) and recently played his 300th Italian League game.

Elfsborg (Boras) are the Swedish champions for 1961, carrying off the title in their first season in the top class. Down at the other end of the table Sandviken and AIK take the drop, the latter being condemned by Gunnar Nordahl's team Degerfors, who beat them in their last match. AIK Stockholm have been one of Sweden's top clubs for many years and recently celebrated their 70th anniversary.

WEST GERMANY

Appearances

ALBERT Brulls, Borussia Gladbach's 24-year-old inside-forward, seems poised to create a new record. After playing in 17 consecutive international matches, only Fritz Walter can boast of a better tally—22 matches. Brulls is still a long way off the overall record of 71 appearances set up by pre-war star Paul Janes, but it seems likely that either he or Uwe Seeler will ultimately put up a new best ever figure. Max Morlock is West Germany's Fussballer des Jahre. The 36-year-old captain of the reigning cham-

pions, 1st FC Nurnberg, has received few caps since helping his country to their 1954 World Cup success, but the journalists who elect the Footballer of the Year were practically unanimous. Hamburg's Uwe Seeler took the trophy last year. Hamburg SV set a new league record with eleven successive victories since the start of the season. Their goal average shows it was no fluke 52 to 13 and Uwe Seeler is forced to play second fiddle as a scorer to new striker Wulf.

SWITZERLAND

Hugi out

AFTER being chosen for the international matches against Morocco and Sweden, FC Basle's centre-forward Jozef Hugi wrote to team manager Karl Rappan and asked to be excused. With Mr. Rappan's approval this writes finis to Hugi's international career but at 35 he presumably thinks he is past the top grade. Hugi earned himself a permanent place in the Swiss record books with five goals against France at Basle in 1960. Servette, the Swiss champions, are still setting the pace in the new league programme and though their team looks more like an international XI on paper than an amateur Swiss club they will almost certainly repeat their 1961 success in the spring. Team manager Jean Snella is a Frenchman and on the playing staff there are seven or eight Swiss caps plus Jackie Fatton, who has spent most of his career as a professional in France; Mantula from Yugoslavia, and three Hungarians Makay, Nemeth and Paszmandy, who were in Hungary's Youth side of 1956 and have been in Geneva for five years.

BELGIUM

Foreigners

FOLLOWING the successes of Standard (Liege) under the guidance of Hungarian coach Dr. Geza Kalocsai, foreigners are all the rage among the top Belgian clubs. A recent count among the clubs in the two top sections showed nine Frenchmen, two Austrians and one Rumanian. Further down the scale there are many more imported coaches but the biggest and most popular clubs all have foreigners in charge. Waterschei Thor is one of the exceptions in Division One. Their team chief is a former Belgian international, Luois Carre, while former Anderlecht star controls the fortunes of second division Olse Merksem.

To be pros or shamateurs, that is the question facing the Belgian F.A. At a recent conference called to discuss their most pressing problem it was decided to set up three committees which would sound the feelings of the 70 clubs in the three top divisions.

After four straight defeats in World Cup qualifying matches Belgian football needed a boost badly—and they received it from neighbouring France. Beaten 3-0, the Frenchmen went to the slaughter almost willingly!

SPAIN

Qualified

REAL Madrid were the first team to qualify for the European Cup quarter finals after beating BK 1913 Odense 12-0 on aggregate and, despite their extra commitments, still hold a three point advantage at the top of the league table. Down at the other end the bottom club, Atletico Bilbao, have improved somewhat but are still well in trouble and unlike their rivals they cannot buy their way back to security. Certainly they have the money but they face a difficult problem. They have never yet played in division two—and they have never bought a player from another club! The Basques pride will not allow the club to accept either and the only solution is to fight their way up the table with the talent available.

For several seasons the Spanish league has run a scheme to subsidise the travelling expenses of clubs from division two that have to travel to the Canaries to fulfil their fixtures. This season it almost was not necessary for Las Palmas were relegated once more but up in their place came Tenerife. Division One clubs can afford the cost of flying to the Canary Islands but for the poorer teams in the second category the league imposes a surcharge on the top matches Real Madrid v. Atletico, Barcelona v. Espanol, etc., and passes on the proceeds.

Former Barcelona coach Ljubisa Brocic began the new term with Tenerife but after only two months he was asked to resign. Mr. Brocic turned down several offers to help Tenerife—and at the first sign of trouble—he is out.

ARGENTINA

Racing again

THE Racing Club of Buenos Aires appear well on the way to their 14th championship success. With seven matches still to be played they have a lead of seven points with San Lorenzo in second place. Atlanta, River Plate and Boca Juniors are challenging for the runners-up medals but Racing it seems are all but home.

Argentina have long been known as the world's busiest football market but the full extent of their export trade was emphasised by figures released recently by the F.A. Italian clubs have accounted for 102 exports while others have also been frequent purchasers. Colombia 70 players, Brazil 58 (!), Mexico 44 are other very active countries while Chile, Uruguay and Spain also figure prominently. All told the list includes 472 players. No wonder the F.A. want to impose a ban!

BRAZIL

Contracts

TAKING the lead from Pele, Coutinho and Didi, Botafogo's flying outside-right Garrincha has insisted on a new contract at better terms and, apparently satisfied, has signed for a further three seasons. Not so happy are the 1960 champions of the Rio de Janeiro league, Fluminense, whose players have put their heads together and worked out that Pele is earning more each month than their entire team!

Thrills in the goal-mouth in Czechoslovakia during a friendly game between Spartak Skolovo and visiting Moscow Dynamo from Russia. The Dynamo goalkeeper and centre-half suppress an attempt by the Spartak centre-forward. (O.)

4-2-4 Has it come to stay?

What is the 4-2-4 system we are hearing so much about these days? The article on these pages analyses it in detail and gives examples of its successful operation by international and club sides.

by ERIC BATTY

MARTON Bukovi, one of Hungary's top football coaches and for several seasons trainer of their national team recently wrote an article for the Russian magazine *Football* in which he criticised the 4-2-4 tactical system. His main objection appears to be that it will lead to even greater specialisation by the players who will become more and more efficient at one aspect of the game while completely ignoring the basic skills demanded by other positions. In effect he says the game will become even more stereotyped than it is today and his personal leaning is towards greater mobility, fluidity and versatility!

At the same time, the Brazilians appear to be on the point of discarding the system which served them so well four years ago in Sweden and despite the fact that a vast number of club sides and many national teams have adopted 4-2-4 the Brazilian switch raises doubts about whether or not the system will still be as universally popular four years hence.

Before thinking of other possible paths for exploration it would be as well to consider what 4-2-4 means and how it came to be accepted; what if anything has been achieved and whether it was a positive or negative step in the development of football tactics.

It is, of course, an adaptation of the old and well tested WM which can be mathematically described as 3-2-2-3—three full-backs, two half-backs, two inside-forwards (withdrawn) and three foraging forwards always lying well upfield. From here it is only two simple steps to 4-2-4 and though Brazil received the credit for introducing the system many others led the way by adapting the WM to suit the strengths and weaknesses of their players.

England for example have often fielded two spearhead forwards in the centre of their attack. In 1947 Tom Lawton and Stan Mortensen came together for the first time in the England colours and were an immediate success; each of them scoring four goals in a 10-0 victory over Portugal in Lisbon! Previously the England inside-forwards that season had been Raich Carter and Wilf Mannion and while they were frequently among the scorers they were both better known for their organising ability in midfield.

In 1946-47 these two inside-forwards played together in seven consecutive international matches with the tactics at that time strictly orthodox WM. Then after a 1-0 defeat by Switzerland the England selectors decided that they needed greater scoring power and Mortensen took over from Carter at inside-right for the match against Portugal a week later. The England wingers at that time were Stanley Matthews and Tom Finney, both noted for their highly developed ball skill and ability to create scoring chances for others.

Mannion withdrew into midfield to play the role of "general" from the time that Mortensen was introduced and this forward formation is precisely the same as that of Brazil in 1958. It is also interesting to note that Mannion's rate of goal scoring for England declined considerably once Mortensen came in. Prior to the Portugal match Mannion had scored seven times out of an England total of 23 (nearly one third of all the goals) but after the tactical switch he scored only three goals in 18 games!

Hungary, too, helped lead the way to 4-2-4 with their outstanding team of the early 1950s. Behind their all-conquering attack, Budai, Kocsis, Hidegkuti, Puskas, Czibor—two fast moving direct wingers, and three interchangeable inside-forwards, they had a brilliant attacking wing-half, Jozsef Bozsik, and a defence that creaked more than a little under pressure. To have played Bozsik in a defensive role would have been to waste his tremendous talent. To have left him out because his attacking play left gaps in the rear would have been criminal!

The answer was to play the other wing-half, Zakarias, in a purely defensive role, and this is precisely what the Hungarians did. At that time Zakarias was the most criticised member of the Hungarian team simply because he failed to shine in attack like most other wing-halves of that era and it is noticeable that he was rarely omitted during the Hungarians' long successful run.

Its introduction

In Sweden, Brazil combined all these features and 4-2-4 was introduced to the world. One wing-half in close support of the centre-half; the other free to patrol midfield with a withdrawn inside-forward while the other inside man lay well upfield.

The aims of the 4-2-4 are two-fold. First, to solve the problem that has plagued the game since the attacking centre-half became a stopper. A good player in the centre back position manages (more or less) to put an effective stranglehold on centre-forwards and drastically reduces the number of goals scored against his side. Giving him two men to cope with made his task doubly difficult; while at the other end four full-time defenders gave extra stability in defence.

Were these moves necessary generally? No doubt Lawton and Mortensen did the trick for England, just as the defensive wing-half benefited Hungary but were these switches,

England's Jimmy Greaves (left) in action for Italy's Milan. Greaves was a member of the successful England international team which, under manager Walter Winterbottom, played to a variation of the 4-2-4 formation system. (Keystone.)

Gerry Hitchens (right) former Aston Villa star now with Italy's Internazionale, successfully avoids a leaping interception by an opponent. Hitchens played a vital role in the English 4-2-4 system during those occasions when he was capped for his country. (Keystone.)

followed by 4-2-4, good for the game as a whole?

I think the answer is no, simply because the system calls for specialists, i.e., fast runners on the wings, two goalscorers in the centre and four defensive players. More and more, football is becoming dominated by players with limited objectives who are intent on spoiling the good moves of their opponents. Their own constructive abilities must be controlled; their attacking instincts curbed in order that their game will fit in with the overall tactical plan of the team. 4-2-4, 3-3-1-3 and (in Italy) 1-3-3-3 are all designed, in part at least, to cut down the chances of the defence being caught out of position when a counter attack develops, and this combined with the liability in the shape of a number that each player carries on his back, all helps to restrict his movements and limit his development.

Hungry

That 4-2-4 has been so universally acclaimed and widely accepted is due to two factors. Almost every team was looking for a way to boost its goals for column—and it simplified the game for wing-halves who could not anticipate the moment when their own attacking moves would break down.

If a wing-half can read the game he can be allowed to roam at will and a good player in this position will seldom lay himself open to the charge that he allowed the opposing inside-forward to come through with the ball and draw the full-backs out of position. A less capable player, however, will do this often and managers the world over have learned that if they say to a young wing-half "Use your loaf, son"—it is asking for trouble.

Tell him never to move out of his own half; never to carry the ball but to send it, never to move far from his centre-half and everyone knows exactly what is required of him. It is easier to play that way and therefore less skilful, less demanding and less attractive—but defensively more effective!

4-2-4 can be fairly described as "Insurance", for now a quick counter attack will always be challenged by *four* defenders as against *three* when both wing-halves were free to attack and therefore liable to be caught out of position.

Marton Bukovi's article points the way to fresh thinking. He advocates inter-changeable players with everyone able to shoot and create scoring chances for others; everyone able to tackle; able to go through on their own; to attack and defend in turn and, when necessary, able to take over in goal!

He argues with irrefutable logic that if an opportunity to move forward and get in a shot at goal is presented to a full-back, he should never be afraid to do so because his match instructions were to follow a particular player everywhere he goes.

Personally I am against any system that lays an undue emphasis on defence, but it must be admitted that it is difficult to criticise Brazil or England if the tactics they play to bring a good result! The overall object of the game is, after all, "to get it in the net at that end—and keep it out at this end" and any manager who takes his living from the game must either abide by the rules or find other employment!

Even so while this is true of the professional game I am convinced that tactics do more harm than good to young players, who can only learn from their experiences. Everyone learns fastest from his mistakes and young players must be left free to make these mistakes and learn from them. Restricting a young player's duties, limits his experience and must inevitably retard his development, and when Brazil won the World Cup and gave us 4-2-4 they did untold damage to the game.

The old attacking centre-half's switch to centre-back had the most terrible consequences on the game and in truth the defensive wing-half merely follows the same pattern. What we need now is a fresh, vigorous approach to the game with renewed emphasis on attack, and Mr. Bukovi's interchangeable footballer shows us the way ahead.

In Florence recently I had a talk about football generally with the former Hungarian star, Nandor Hidegkuti, now the coach of Fiorentina. "Everyone is playing defensively today," he says. "Watch Real Madrid, allegedly the most goal conscious team in the world. They always have more players behind the ball than they have in front of it, and their tactics revolve around ten players in their own half trying to engineer a chance for the other player to go through on his own and score. After all it only takes one to get the ball in the net."

Mr. Hidegkuti sums up the present situation like this—the most profound remark I've heard in years.

"More and more people are thinking about football than ever before and the more they think the worse the game gets!"

'The challenge of my new post'

Sir Stanley Rous's message to all National Associations

"It was with mixed feelings that I faced the delegates of the F.I.F.A. Congress on Thursday, September 28, 1961, after they had just elected me to their highest administrative position. I felt at once proud, sad and humble. Proud because another Englishman had been chosen to succeed the late Arthur Drewry as the leader of world football, sad because his meant the end of 27 happy years with warm friends and staunch lieutenants as Secretary of The Football Association, and humble at the thought of the responsibilities and the challenge which my new post entails.

"Today F.I.F.A. finds itself in a position very similar to that in international diplomacy. In Asia and Africa new nations emerge; naturally, they all want to have a voice in affairs. Yet they all need, I am sure, the active help of the older, more experienced nations.

"It must be one of the clear responsibilities of the governing body, of which I am now the President, to give these rapidly developing countries all possible help from its wide experience of Refereeing, Finance, Organisation of Competitions, Coaching Systems, Disciplinary Measures, and all the other facets of football administration. We must give them matches too, because I feel sure that it can be only by constant international Competition that they will be able to raise their own standards.

"In its statutes, F.I.F.A. is charged with promoting the amateur game and controlling the professional game. For my part, while thanking you once again for the great honour which you have conferred on me, I will work as your President with all my power to maintain these two great objectives."

South American commentary

continued from page eleven

cently, and again at Santiago, the Chileans played Uruguay and surprisingly lost by the odd goal in five a match they had hoped, even expected, to win. Unfortunately, on the day, it seems that Chile's young right-back, Eyzaguirre, was most unhappy against the Uruguayan outside-left Pinto (one of the stars of Cerro, the club who are now threatening the Penarol-Nacional monopoly of Uruguayan football). It was goals by Pinto that enabled Uruguay to cancel out Chile's early lead (Fouilloux was the scorer) and to get their own noses in front. Then after a long spell of Chilean attacks, Pinto again broke away and crossed the ball for Cubillas to score a third goal for Uruguay.

In the final stages Chile threw everything into the attack but could only score once—through Moreno, and the score goes into the record books as Chile 2 Uruguay 3 but national team manager, Riera, was generally satisfied with his players and probably prepared to accept that on another day Eyzaguirre may have fared better against Pinto!

Certainly the Chileans themselves have a high regard for this young star of the Universidad de Chile club. U. de C. with seventeen league matches played in the Chilean National League are, at the moment, maintaining the lead they gained after the tenth

NECK AND NECK DUEL IN CHILE

round of matches but it is still a neck and neck race with Universidad Catolica. Colo Colo, last year's champions, are in third place—five points behind Universidad de Chile and four behind Universidad Catolica—but, partly by virtue of their position as reigning champions, they still get the plum friendly matches. I mentioned before their match against Real Madrid when the Spanish club were making a quick pre-season tour of the Americas. More recently Colo Colo had a match against Santos—surely the most remarkably successful and active of all football clubs. Santos dropped into Santiago to play Colo Colo after a couple of games in the Argentine—the most important of which against Racing they had won by four goals to two. The Colo Colo match was actually the Brazilians' third match in six days and they appeared somewhat listless and lackadaisical for the first twenty minutes of the game—and this despite the fact that Juan Soto had shot the Chileans into the lead after only three minutes' play.

Then the incomparable Pele decided that Santos should assert their superiority and in the space of three minutes had scored himself and laid on a second goal for his outside-left Tito. For the rest of the first half and for the first ten minutes or so of the second half (during which Pagao scored a third Santos goal) the Brazilians laid on a superb exhibition of football that had the 50,000 spectators in the Estadio Nacional in a succession of rapturous ovations.

The Brazilians then felt they had done enough and relied upon the stout defence of the seasoned campaigners, Calvet, Mauro and Zito, and the enthusiasm of the newer "boys", Filas, Getulio and Dalmao, to hold the lead for the final half-hour. Colo Colo, for all their unpredictability in the league this season, responded to the challenge but all their efforts could not produce more than one further goal—scored by Alvarez. Colo Colo's line-up for this set-piece was: Escuti; Pena, Navarro; J. Gonzalez, E. Gonzalez, Ortiz; Moreno, Alvarez, J. Soto, Toro and Bello.

The Santos side included sufficient "newish" names to remind us once again of the infinite "richness of Brazil" wherein there appears to be not only an awful lot of coffee but a miraculous crop of footballers. Filas was in goal; Getulio and Dalmao at full-back; Calvet, Mauro and Zito the half-back line; and the forwards were Dorval, Mengalvio, Pagao, Pele and Tito. The same players—some of the defenders in different positions—played against Racing with the exceptions of Laercio in goal and Bé at centre-forward. Coutinho has, I understand, some internal trouble that may require an operation—meanwhile Santos take Bé and Pagao off the assembly line.

The league campaign in Chile provides tamer fare than matches such as that between Colo Colo and Santos—my records tell me that the highest attendance at the Estadio Nacional for league matches (usually two on the same afternoon) has been just under 25,000, or half the crowd that turned up to see Pele and Co. (Elsewhere in Chile, incidentally, gates of between two and six thousand are the general rule.)

It is, I think, an unfair reflection on the level of domestic football in Chile that more spectators have not watched the league matches in a championship season that has been keenly fought throughout. There are, by the way, fourteen clubs in the top league and five of these got off to a winning start and four were concerned in drawn matches. By the second round, however, only one club, Santiago Morning, could boast of a hundred per cent record and a goalless draw with Universidad de Chile in the third round ended their short monopoly of the top place where Santiago Morning were then joined by Universidad Catolica and Palestino.

In the fourth round of matches, Santiago Morning could only draw with Audax Italiano, and Palestino beat Universidad Catolica to move to top place. Meanwhile Universidad de Chile, who had drawn two and won one of their first three matches, by beating O'Higgins slipped into second place equal with Santiago Morning and Colo Colo. A further Universidad de Chile win (over Wanderers) took them to the top after the next batch of matches—together with Santiago Morning who had also won again. But at the end of the sixth round U. de C. were clear leaders and, although Universidad Catolica drew level for a couple of weeks, from the tenth round onwards they have kept the top position to themselves—but with never more than two points between the two clubs and usually only one.

The position at the time of writing between the top two is:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Universidad de Chile	17	9	8	0	33	16	26
Universidad Catolica	17	10	5	2	43	21	25

The second match between the two contenders has still to be played—indeed it will be the final match of the season—and it was in line with the closeness of their struggle that in their first meeting the result was a goalless draw. Draws have been quite a feature of the matchless overall—a quick calculation showed me that two out of every seven matches have resulted in a draw. This may partly be a consequence of "shared" grounds and therefore of the lesser frequency of home advantage. It is not, although U. de C. themselves are stronger in defence than in attack, an indication that the Chilean clubs as a whole are defence conscious. Many of the draws have been of the 3-3, 4-4 nature and in other matches five and six goals have been common. Colo Colo, rich in forward talent, naturally feature in several of the high-scoring matches with a hectic 7-5 encounter with Palestino the most remarkable.

Finally a hasty look at the league position in another smaller South American country—Peru. Ten clubs appear in the top division in Peru—most of them centred in Lima. After seven matches Sporting Cristal are clear leaders—like Universidad de Chile they are as yet unbeaten. Sporting Cristal have 12 points. Alianza Lima have ten, Universitario nine and Deportivo Municipal eight. Defensor Lima and Sport Boys with seven apiece could still make up lost ground but the remaining four clubs, Ciclista Lima, Atletico Chalaco, Centro Iqueno and Mariscal Sportive look like being chopping blocks for the big six.

GORDON JEFFERY

Harvard University of the U.S.A. have an outstanding record-breaking goalscorer in Chris Ohiri a Nigerian. His coach Bruce Munro considers him to be the finest prospect in the game. (P.1.)

THE REVIVAL OF ROUEN

The French club promises to regain old pride, says ROGER MACDONALD

ONE of the brightest features in an otherwise gloomy picture of French football has been the revival of Rouen, once the pride of northern France. While many great names of the pre-war era sink into near-oblivion, Rouen F.C. promise to regain their old position among the best in the land.

The early history is the Football Club de Rouen is of comparative insignificance: founded as an all-sports club in 1899, they made little impression on the soccer field until their finest player, Robert Diochon, hung up his boots to become president. A strange paradox, it would seem; but then Diochon was a superb administrator and one of the greatest directors in the game.

An essential of Diochon's policy was his belief in the development of youth; under his guidance Rouen became one of the first French clubs to field numerous junior sides. Success was quickly forthcoming, especially after F.C.R. joined the northern section of the Comité Français Interfédéral, when large attendances became commonplace at important League and Cup matches. In 1911 over 13,000 spectators watched S.H. Marseilles win the Championship Final of all France at Rouen's expense: a disappointing result, but a remarkable attendance for its time.

Many French football clubs closed down during the Great War, but F.C.R. managed to stay in business by "signing foreign players"—ten soldiers from the British regiment stationed on the local race-course! The city's inhabitants often turned out *en masse* to watch them play, especially when the eleventh position was filled by the Frenchman Cousinard, a goalkeeper of high reputation.

After the war two of the Englishmen, Barnes and Witty, continued to play and work at Rouen, where they still live to this day. Both gave sterling service to their adopted club for many years, Witty continuing to play until the mid-1930s. He was a key professional in the great Rouen sides of this decade, and is still looked upon as one of their finest players.

In 1925 F.C.R. lost the French Cup Final to C.A.S. Generaux, after a drawn game: one of the spectators in the crowd was a young schoolboy, Jean Nicolas. Seven years later, while still attending school at Solleville-les-Rouen, he made his début in the first team of the *Diables Rouges*. He was eighteen: Rouen F.C. was thirty-three. Both were to have a meteoric rise to fame.

THE GRAPESHOT ATTACK

With the coming of professionalism in 1934, the stars of Rouen—Nicolas, Lherminé, Rio, Antoinette, Blondel and Taillis—showed a great improvement in their game. The forward line—nicknamed *l'attaque mitrailleuse* (the grapeshot attack) because of its devastating power—became renowned throughout France, and two of its members, Nicolas and Rio, established themselves in the national side.

Nicolas had gained his first cap for France in February, 1933, when the Austrian Wunderteam had romped home 4-0 in Paris. However the nineteen-year-old centre-forward redeemed his poor performance with a magnificent display against Germany, scoring two goals in a 3-3 draw. Henceforth his selection was assured, and within two years he was the star of the international side. A great opportunist, he scored four goals against Luxemburg and two against Holland in 1934, when France recovered from a 3-0 deficit to secure a 5-4 victory.

By the time of the World Cup Competition, which took place in Italy later in the year, the partnership of Nicolas and Rio had become invaluable to France. However, in their first match, against old rivals Austria, Nicolas became involved in a head-on collision with Smistik, the opposing centre-half. Unable to see clearly from his right eye, he returned on the wing—to score a magnificent goal in the next minute. But for the rest of the game he was reduced to a passenger, and the disorganised French team lost by the odd goal in five.

This injury cost Nicolas his place in the national eleven, but he recovered sufficiently to lead the Rouen attack in brilliant fashion for much of the following season, scoring thirty goals. He did even better the next year, when the Red Devils—with Witty amongst them—swept all opposition aside to gain promotion. Nicolas found the net on 45 occasions, a remarkable total from only 34 matches.

France evidently had need of "a whiff of grapeshot" once again, for Nicolas, Rio, Antoinette, André and Payen were selected for the national side. These five, together with Canthelou and Dambach, continued to play intermittently for France until the outbreak of war.

While F.C.R. lacked the consistency of Sete and Sochaux, their forward-line continued its devastating progress throughout the last pre-war decade. And Nicolas, with his enviable gift of being in the right place at the right time, scored more goals than any two other players put together. One day he hit a triple hat-trick against Valenciennes. Another time, it was five against the élite of Racing. "No wonder," writes a journalist of the time, "he has been selected twenty-five times for France."

In 1938 Nicolas was neck and neck with the Strasbourgeois Rohr, a famous German centre-forward, for the goalscoring title; each had 25 goals to their credit, and each club had one match left to play. On the last Saturday of the season, Strasbourg, who had put their game forward a day, thrashed Red Star 6-1. Nicolas, sitting gloomily at home, cursed his luck, only to learn later that Bohr had not scored!

The odds were now heavily on the Rouen centre-forward, but Nicolas, like the Strasbourgeois, found that no goal is more difficult than when the need is desperate. F.C.R. were soon eight goals to the good against lowly Fives, but with the match nearly over, poor Jean had not even looked like scoring.

However, in the eighty-fifth minute the home side were awarded a free kick, just outside the penalty-area. The crowd hushed as Nicolas came up to take the kick, then erupted as he shot the ball home. He was leading scorer in France.

Rouen continued to operate during the German occupation, but it was not until the return of Nicolas and other prisoners of war in 1943 that they made any impression on the war-time competitions. Two years later they recorded their first victory in the French Championship, taking first place in the northern zone and beating Lyon, Southern Champions, in the inter-zone final.

THE TIDE TURNS

Despite their success, the return to full-scale competition heralded the decline of F.C.R. Many of their pre-war stars were dead and injured, while others, Nicolas included, were growing old. Rouen began to slip down the premier league table, and Nicolas left for Stade Francais; at the end of the 1946-47 season his old club was relegated.

The next ten years were disastrous ones for the Football Club de Rouen, and by 1958 the club was seriously considering whether to renounce the professional game. However, the efforts of two long-standing members,

Continued on page 33

F.C. ROUEN

Formed: 1899. Registered as a professional club: 1936.

Ground: Stade Robert Diochon (21,000 capacity); equipped with floodlights.

Record Attendance: 20,840 v. Le Havre, 1949. Number of teams fielded each week: 17.

Honours: War-time Champions of France, 1945; Gained Promotion from Div. II, 1935-36, 1959-60; Cup-Finalists, 1925; Five players in the same international side (Payen, André, Antoinette, Rio, Nicolas), 1937.

International Players: André, Antoinette, Canthelou, Dambach, Lherminé, Nicolas and Rio.

Colours: Red shirts with broad "V" in white, white shorts, red stockings.

Players in leading teams:

1933-34: Antoinette, Bajor, Denis, Hauchecorne, Lherminé, Nicolas, Rio, Taillis, Tassel, Weinhart and Witty.

1936-37: André, Artès, Bessero, Durspeckt, Hauchecorne, Lherminé, Nicolas, Payen, Rio, Skolaut, Taillis,

1960-61: Bliard, Braut, Buron, Corbel, Dalla Cieca, Hocquart, Latron, Monolios, Meyer, Phelippon, Sbroglia, Sucre, Tournie.

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BOOK REVIEWS

STORY OF THE SPURS 'DOUBLE'

FIVE years ago, Julian Holland compiled a detailed history of the Tottenham Hotspur club which has since been accepted as the standard work on the current Double Champions. Now comes not only a survey of the incident and achievement packed intervening years, but a book complete in itself on the club. With the European Cup much in the news for Spurs and a whole new Continental following in other countries to be considered, biographies of the personalities at White Hart Lane are included. The backroom boys are not forgotten, and the statistical minded enthusiast will find plenty to interest him. Well illustrated and intelligently written, there is everything you need to know on the club in **'SPURS—THE DOUBLE'** (Wm. Heinemann Ltd., 15-16 Queen Street, London, W.1., 16s.).

Club histories have always been popular reading, although all the books in this group have not always been worth reading. Many of them are nothing more than "potted" accounts, thrown together by writers who have not had the inclination nor the enterprise to cull from every available source.

It is pleasing, then, to review two recent club histories which in no way fall into the old trap. The first is by Dr. Percy M. Young (who has already proved his narrative abilities in his earlier works on Wolves and Manchester United). His **BOLTON WANDERERS** (Stanley Paul Ltd., 178-202 Great Portland Street, London, W.1, 21s.) is written with the authority of a scholar and the grace of an artist, so that his contributions to this branch of literature are unique. A native of the north-west of England he has many memories of the great clubs of Lancashire and those of Bolton are especially strong. A handsome book: factual and most readable.

Hugh Taylor attempts something new with his **WE WILL FOLLOW RANGERS** (Stanley Paul Ltd., 178-202 Great Portland Street, London, W.1., 12s. 6d.). Not for him the flowery literary style: his history is in a modern idiom, as dramatic as a television play. Staccato-style, punchy and as modern as 1962, all of Glasgow Rangers' greatest moments roar through the pages. Young enthusiasts will revel in it, and the older corps will quickly fall in step with its pulsating new approach.

R. C. Churchill's **ENGLISH LEAGUE FOOTBALL** (Nicholas Kaye, 194-200 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2, 21s.) is the up-to-date and enlarged version of that most popular Penguin Book edition "Sixty Seasons of League Football." The book falls into three parts: (i) the broad history of the English League since its beginning in 1888, (ii) the history of each of the 111 clubs which has played in the League, and (iii) the final League tables from the first. It is a superb statistic effort.

The long awaited Danny Blanchflower story of his life in the world of football and his own views on the fabulous "double" by Tottenham Hotspur does not fall short of expectations. Danny calls it **THE DOUBLE AND BEFORE** (Nicholas Kaye, 194-200 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2, 15s.) and it is a welcome departure from the usual run of autobiographies in that it has actually been written by Blanchflower himself without outside help and that it is not strictly an autobiography.

Rather it is a slice of his colourful life and he has told it entertainingly and honestly.

So indeed does Jimmy Hill in his **STRIKING FOR SOCCER** (Peter Davies, 15 Queen Street, London, W.1, 18s.). This former Fulham forward and currently Professional Footballers' Association chairman (now Coventry City manager) examines the entire administrative structure of the English game and in his usual no punches held manner, suggests vital changes.

The first, full, complete history of the European Cup contest (with pictures and line-ups) comes from West Germany, **EUROPAPOKAL 1961** (Copress-Verlag, Munich). In the German language.

THE REVIVAL OF ROUEN *(from page 31)*

Jean Ravenal and Gilbert Vieuxbled, secured the election of a new committee, pledged to restore both the finances and the prestige of F.C.R. to their happy position of pre-war days. Shrewd transfers, coupled with a drastic revision of expenditure, had their desired result: the tide turned, and Rouen began to climb the league table. In the space of two seasons, 1959-1961, they passed from promotion-challengers in the Second Division to Championship-chasers in the top flight. Third place in Division II made them a team to be watched: fourth place in Division I made them a team to be feared.

While it would be unfair to single out any one player as the cause of Rouen's success, their more knowledgeable supporters tend to place the credit on four—Corbel, Dalla Cieca, Sbroglia and Manolios. Claude Corbel, captain and dashing centre-forward, has Nicolas's gift of opportunism; Dalla Cieca, once a star with Racing, has exploited the goalscoring abilities of his co-attackers to the full. The two signings from Lyon, goalkeeper Manolios and pivot Sbroglia, have given stability to a hitherto shaky defence. The former is one of the most improved players in the game, while Jules Sbroglia remains among the finest centre-halves in France.

Much more could be told—of the drawn games with Monaco and Reims this season, marred by missed opportunities; of the work of president Auguste Duchêne and manager Max Schirschin; of the other players—but time and space does not permit. Suffice to say that these men, and others too numerous to mention, have followed ably in the steps of Diochon the director and Nicolas the player. The compact city ground stands as a fitting tribute to the work of Robert Diochon; the efforts of Jean Nicolas are engraved in the records for posterity. But the players and officials of today want no such recognition of their services: their reward is the revival of a great club, the revival of Rouen.

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BULGARIANS HURT THE FRENCH

JERRY WEINST IN pin-points some of France's shortcomings

MR. JUSTICE FRANKFURTER of the United States Supreme Court is alleged to have said jocularly once that a Hungarian was someone who went through a swing door after you and came out in front of you. This is roughly how the French see the Bulgarians this autumn. Indeed, I must crawl out of the sackcloth and ashes which is national garb hereabouts, following France's unexpected 1-0 defeat in Sofia which means a play-off with the Bulgarians in Milan for a place in the World Cup final rounds in Chile.

The country is plunged into mourning; one magazine has even headlined its current main feature story "Raymond Kopa's Calvary"—and poor Raymond was merely listening to the radio commentary on the match! I hate to say it, but "they were warned." Months ago I gave my unsolicited and totally disregarded advice to team selector Georges Verriest when I said that he should choose a club attack. At Sofia the French forward-line was, alas, a makeshift affair of Guillas, Muller, Mahi, Fulgenzy and Peyrouche. Left behind, for reasons of injury or loss of form, were Wisnieski, Douis, Roy, Piantoni, Kopa, Ujlaki, Van Sam, Vincent, Heutte and Di Nallo, to cite only those who come readily to mind! No country can leave behind a collection of players like this and expect to triumph.

But it was not only the matter but the manner that galled the Gauls. With no score, and one minute to go, the Czech referee Fencl awarded a free-kick, unjustified according to observers, since Bulgarian forward Kolev was apparently offside and Mahi was being illegally held off the ball. As if this was not enough, when the free-kick was blocked, Monsieur Fencl ordered it to be retaken and Iliev notched the only goal of the game. The French not unnaturally protested vehemently.

Penalised

The referee had tended throughout to penalise the French players rather more than the Bulgarians but this is not surprising when it is realised that the French played an entirely defensive game and deliberately set out to stop Bulgaria from scoring. The folly of such an outlook has so often been demonstrated. But it must be said that the Bulgars did attack throughout the game and gained ten corners to one for France. However tragic the circumstances preceding the last-minute goal the French gambled by playing for a draw and lost.

Of one thing I am quite certain: France will win the play-off and will be a power in Chile. (This will be known by the time this article is in print.) The French are never more dangerous than when emerging from a state of moody indecision and self-criticism. It happened before the 1958 World Cup in Sweden and we know the final result. It should be recorded that the cup of woe is temporarily complete with the news that Roger Piantoni who has been in a real scoring mood this season has had to have a cartilage operation and will be out of the game for about eight weeks.

On the domestic scene it is the time of the Davids. I have often written of the extra-ordinary feats of Sedan, the small town not much larger than Lancing which lies on the border of the Ardennes Forest near Belgium. When the club turned professional in 1953 little attention was devoted to its deeds. In their second season they won promotion and two years later the Cup; last year again the Cup was theirs. Now, at the beginning of December, under the shrewd guidance of Manager Louis Dugauguez, they sit proudly at the head of the League table for the first time in their meteoric career.

Best defence

To get there they slammed five goals past Nimes, then leaders and goalkeeper Bernard (the French hero of Brussels and Sofia), followed by another nap victory against the strong Strasbourg defence marshalled by former French internationals centre-half Bob Jonquet and goalkeeper François Remetter. Sedan have lost only one match this season, they almost have the best defensive record in the League and only Reims have scored more goals. They must now be taken as serious challengers for the title.

Another remarkable exploit to end the month of November was that of Racing. For weeks, the Paris club has been the subject of criticism after disappointing displays. A break in the League programme, agreed in order to enable the French national team to have a reasonable spell of training together (*English Football League and F.A. please note!*), enabled Racing to get down to serious thinking and recuperative training in Switzerland. The first result was a fantastic 11-2 hiding administered to unhappy Metz. This was a brilliant display of collective and individual attacking football by Ujlaki, Heutte and Milutinovic. Metz were, incidentally, not that bad! Their newly acquired Danish forward Soerensen showed considerable skill but his reply when asked what he thought was the difference between Danish and French football—"The money"—was perhaps a trifle casual! Racing's 11 goals was incidentally the highest score in normal French League football for over a quarter of a century; in 1935 Sochaux actually scored a round dozen against Valenciennes.

A final matter of considerable significance this season has been the foundation last month of the French equivalent of the Players' Union. The creation of this body to protect and improve the football profession in France is a personal dream realised for law student and sometimes devastating goalscorer Eugène Njo Lea from the Cameroons. He has waged a long and careful campaign with players and clubs and has been rewarded by being appointed Secretary-General of the new Union. He first made his mark as a player with St. Etienne and then moved to Lyon. Now it has been agreed that during his stay in Paris, where he is engaged in a course at the French national school of public administration (civil service), Njo Lea will be on loan to Racing.

Just Fontaine is the first president of the Union and André Lerond of Stade Française, is the Treasurer.

OBSTRUCTION

Continued from page 24

exploited by the majority of the world's top stars.

Alarming, too, is the tendency nowadays for the challenger to run past the ball in his challenge and to "take" the man so innocently and so slightly that nothing seems to be wrong.

Certainly I am not worrying for nothing. Said Winterbottom: "In football we tend to ignore problems until they get so big that we are forced to legislate."

Quite frankly I could not be optimistic that even this approach will check what is now a menace to world progress on the soccer field.

One must recognise, I think, that Continental interpretations are seeping into the British approach to the game.

How often, nowadays, do Britons see the challenge to a goalkeeper in possession as they used to do? More often than not even an English League side in arrears and seeking a desperate equaliser will turn away and leave the 'keeper alone immediately he grabs the ball.

As British coaches gradually produce the ball players they have so long lacked and instil the ability for the quick-passing game will they not, too, abandon the direct tackle?

It must needs be so as they adapt themselves to the ever-changing soccer scene. I am not decrying the beauty and the skills of the modern game . . . but I am concerned that it seems to be breeding a race of theorists who seek to introduce arts and demeanours which have no place in the football manual.

Obviously the leading legislators are of similar mind. They are aware, too, of a need for uniformity in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game as they stand.

While we get hints that further work may be needed on the Law Book to legislate for modern tendencies we must also face the inviolable fact that there is a wide diversity of expression in the fulfilment of things as they now stand.

Thyne and the Scottish F.A.

Continued from page 23

It's not a miracle: all the players who have been picked these last few games—Ure and Hamilton excepted—have at some time been picked with other players. It's just that the players now, in their present blend, are Scotland's best-ever team."

With typical frankness, Selector Thyne refuses to allow all credit to go to the Selection Committee, or even to team-boss McColl. "The clubs have done a great deal to help with their full-time policy. We are now getting an individual, physically fitter than ever, who talks, sleeps, eats and drinks football at international as well as club level," he says.

The results have so far been most encouraging this season. Even one as experienced as Mr. Thyne does not try to hide the fact that he has been impressed by Scotland's performances of the immediate past, and of things likely to be achieved in what promises to be a most exciting future.

When someone as closely connected with the game as he undoubtedly is can say in all sincerity: "I don't think Scotland has ever had the potential it has now," it is indeed a sign of changed times—and pleasant ones, too, for long-suffering Scottish supporters who now look forward eagerly to coming internationals instead of, as was the case not so long ago, dreading even to think of them.

The photo on the right shows the Hibernians F.C. of Malta prior to their European Cup Second Leg match against the Swiss side, Servette. The players, reading from left to right are as follows: (Standing): Privitera, Anastasi, Mizzi, Attard, Theobald L. and Xuereb; (Squatting): Ellul, Vella, Sultana, Theobald and Mizzi. (Photo: Hibs. F.C.)

A MALTA STAR FOR ENGLAND

***REM SACCO** tells the story of Ginger Zammit*

FOR one of the best wingers in Malta, a dream has come true. He is Joe "Ginger" Zammit, Footballer of the Year for Season 1960-61, and who had an offer from Australia to go and join the George Cross team. He was offered free passage, a job, as also bonuses for wins and draws.

But Joe preferred to travel to England, where his cousin is Chairman of the Melita Football Club in London. Zammit had only one taste of English football, when he played for the Malta F.A. XI against Manchester United last May, where the United won 2-0.

Joe's cousin contacted Portsmouth's chief scout and everything was arranged for the Malta Footballer of the Year to be given a trial with the Reserves.

Zammit paid the passage himself to England and was included on the right wing in the Reserve match against Swindon which Pompey won 7-1. Joe left a good impression, made two of the goals and "Linesman" of the *Evening News* had some favourable comments on the Malta player.

Zammit's local club, Valletta, opened its League programme on the first Sunday in October but Joe was not in the team because he was still in England where he hopes to settle if given the chance to do so.

The two Malta clubs, champions Hibernians of Pawla, and Cup holders Floriana are now out of the international club competitions.

Hibernians, drawn against the Swiss champions Servette lost 0-5 in Geneva but only went down 1-2 in Malta where the locals gave a creditable performance and a draw would have been a more fitting result. Goalkeeper Mizzi of Hibs, one of the best custodians in the island, will soon undertake a one year laundry course in U.K., where he hopes to play for Walsall. Mizzi also had an offer from Juventus of Italy but he never cherished the idea of going to Italy.

Floriana lost their first match 2-5 in Malta in the European Cup of Cups against the crack side Ujpest Dozsa, attendance about 13,000 and then went down by the heavy score of 2-10 on September 27 at the Nep Stadium in Budapest.

Perhaps by coincidence, on the same programme at the same venue M.T.K. of Hungary overwhelmed Strasbourg by the same score of 10-2 in the Fair Cities Cup.

Two Italian referees were brought over to control these games, as also Sig. Ferruccio di Nanni, a sports journalist and a member of the Italian F.A. representing U.E.F.A.

I attended the dinners held in honour of both Servette and Ujpest, the latter are optimistic of their chances of winning the Cup now held by Fiorentina of Italy.

Ujpest were willing to accept to return to Malta for the Christmas Tournee if they were invited. Other Hungarian clubs, Kinitzi, Vasas and Ferencvaros have all paid visits to Malta in previous years.

A tragic accident has hit Maltese football when a plane carrying troops of the Royal Engineers from Tripoli to Malta crashed while taking off at the air port at El Adem. Amongst the sixteen Maltese killed, was one First Division player, J. Psaila of Hamrun Spartans. His corpse was brought to the island and transported to the grave by six of his team mates.

Another player who escaped unhurt was J. Vassallo of Marsa, the club which was relegated last year.

Sliema Wanderers undertook a trip to Tripoli in October where they drew against Ahli and won against Ittihad by a single goal.

The presid ent of the Malta F.A., Dr. M. DeCesare, a companied Floriana F.C. to Budapest w en the team went for their European C up of Cups game, which the Maltese side lost 10-2. Whilst in Hungary, Dr. DeCesa re made contacts with Hungarian foot allers who wished to go to Malta as pl yer coaches and he succeeded to a certain extent. The financial problem is now the greatest obstacle. In pre-war days, foreig footballers were common in Malta and just after the war Floriana, Sliema Wan derers, Valletta, Hamrun and Rabat broug ht U.K. player coaches.

Whilst in Hungary, the local authorities made arran gements with the Hungarian League lea ers Tatabanja, to play five games in Malta during the Christmas Tournee. Ta tabanja have international goalkeeper Gro sics, who however will only play two ga mes in Malta having to undertake a trip to South America with the Hungarian n ational team.

Relations between the Malta F.A. and the Malta Football Referees' Association are not as they should be at the moment. Before the s tart of the season the Referees have bound themselves to abide by any decision ta en by their association forfeiting the s um of £200 if they fail to abide. Referees are asking a hundred

Now the ncrease in fees. The present per cent i for a First Division match is honorarium Malta F.A. did not want to £2 10s. The the bond is not done away with discuss it if rees have remained adamant. but the refe

International Post-Mortem

Continued from Page 8.

not the much more fancied Sweden had qualified for the finals in Chile.

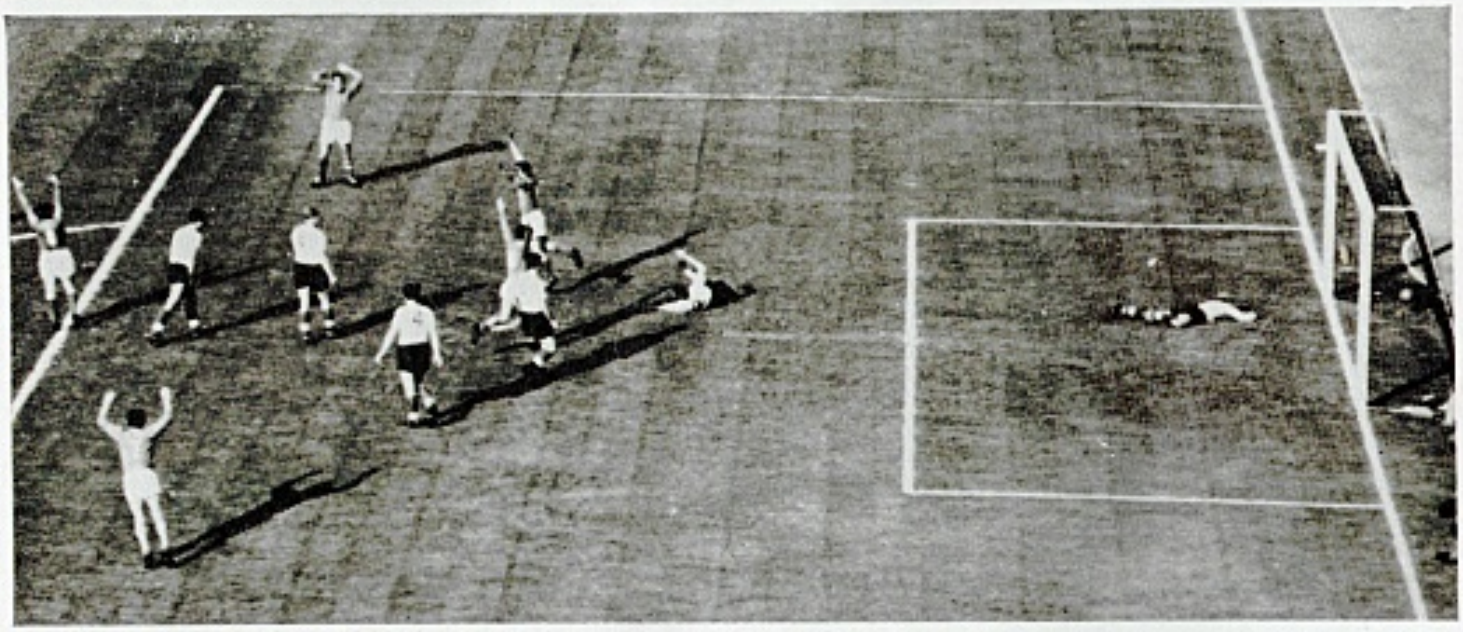
I do not make any claim as a prophet for what was mainly the fancies of a football-statistician. Nor did I but the editor, head my analysis of the past records of Sweden and Switzerland in the August issue of *WORLD SOCCER*—"The Two 'S's' in Close Battle"—but how apt that headline turned out to be! In the see-saw pattern of Sweden and Switzerland in the World Cup it was, I noted, *"Switzerland's turn to play in the finals!"* I did look to the future and not to the past in suggesting that Switzerland would beat Sweden at home to gain a play-off. Then I went back to the past to write: "In their only previous meeting on a neutral ground Switzerland won by two goals to one. But that was in 1924!"

History, even in football, has got a habit of repeating itself—even to the score.

The same score—2-1—was enough not only to ensure the Soviet Union's second appearance in the World Cup finals but to make them, with West Germany, the only country in a hundred per cent record. Again it was the goalie Yachin who took the honours—as did Bernard in Sofia and Carbajal in Ascuncion.

European fixtures for January

The English goalkeeper Ron Springett lies spreadeagled on the ground after being beaten by a shot from the Italian inside-forward, Enrico Sivori. It was Italy's first goal in the international against England in Rome last May. (P.I.)



ENGLAND

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1962

Arsenal v. Bolton Wanderers; Aston Villa v. Sheffield United; Burnley v. Manchester City; Cardiff City v. Tottenham Hotspur; Fulham v. Chelsea; Ipswich Town v. West Bromwich Albion; Leicester City v. Birmingham City; Manchester United v. Blackpool; Nottingham Forest v. West Ham United; Sheffield Wednesday v. Everton; Wolverhampton Wanderers v. Blackburn Rovers.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

Birmingham City v. Ipswich Town; Blackburn Rovers v. Nottingham Forest; Blackpool v. Wolverhampton Wanderers; Bolton Wanderers v. Cardiff City; Everton v. Leicester City; Fulham v. Sheffield Wednesday; Manchester City v. Arsenal; Sheffield United v. Chelsea; Tottenham Hotspur v. Manchester United; West Bromwich Albion v. Burnley; West Ham United v. Aston Villa.

ITALY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Atalanta v. Spal; Catania v. Lanerossi Vicenza; Fiorentina v. Bologna; Lecco v. Juventus; Mantova v. Venezia; Milan v. Palermo; Padova v. Udinese; Roma v. Sampdoria; Torino v. Internazionale.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Bologna v. Padova; Internazionale v. Mantova; Juventus v. Atalanta; Lanerossi Vicenza v. Fiorentina; Lecco v. Spal; Palermo v. Roma; Sampdoria v. Catania; Udinese v. Milan; Venezia v. Torino.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Atalanta v. Udinese; Fiorentina v. Internazionale; Mantova v. Sampdoria; Milan v. Bologna; Padova v. Lanerossi Vicenza; Palermo v. Catania; Roma v. Juventus; Spal v. Venezia; Torino v. Lecco.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Bologna v. Torino; Catania v. Roma; Internazionale v. Padova; Juventus v. Spal; Lanerossi Vicenza v. Atalanta; Lecco v. Mantova; Sampdoria v. Milan; Udinese v. Fiorentina; Venezia v. Palermo.

FRANCE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Sedan v. R.C. Paris; Nancy v. Reims; Strasbourg v. Le Havre; Angers v. Montpellier; St. Francais v. Lens; Rouen v. Sochaux; Lyon v. Metz; Monaco v. Rennes; Nimes v. Nice; Toulouse v. Saint-Etienne.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Reims v. St. Francais; Metz v. Toulouse; Sochaux v. Sedan; Rennes v. Strasbourg; R.C. Paris v. Lyon; Le Havre v. Nimes; Saint-Etienne v. Angers; Nice v. Rouen; Montpellier v. Monaco; Lens v. Nancy.

SCOTLAND

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 1962

Airdrieonians v. Motherwell; Celtic v. Rangers; Dundee v. Aberdeen; Dunfermline Athletic v. Raith Rovers; Hibernian v. Heart of Midlothian; Partick Thistle v. Third Lanark; St. Johnstone v. Dundee United; St. Mirren v. Kilmarnock; Stirling Albion v. Falkirk.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

Aberdeen v. St. Johnstone; Dundee United v. Dundee; Falkirk v. St. Mirren; Heart of Midlothian v. Dunfermline Athletic; Kilmarnock v. Airdrieonians; Motherwell v. Stirling Albion; Raith Rovers v. Hibernian; Rangers v. Partick Thistle; Third Lanark v. Celtic.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

Airdrieonians v. Third Lanark; Celtic v. Kilmarnock; Dundee v. Falkirk; Dunfermline Athletic v. Dundee United; Hibernian v. Rangers; Partick Thistle v. Motherwell; St. Johnstone v. Raith Rovers; St. Mirren v. Heart of Midlothian; Stirling Albion v. Aberdeen.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Aberdeen v. Airdrieonians; Dundee United v. Celtic; Falkirk v. Dunfermline Athletic; Heart of Midlothian v. Dundee; Kilmarnock v. Hibernian; Motherwell v. St. Johnstone; Raith Rovers v. Partick Thistle; Rangers v. St. Mirren; Third Lanark v. Stirling Albion.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

Airdrieonians v. Heart of Midlothian; Celtic v. Falkirk; Dundee v. Third Lanark; Dunfermline Athletic v. Motherwell; Hibernian v. Dundee United; Partick Thistle v. Aberdeen; St. Johnstone v. Kilmarnock; St. Mirren v. Raith Rovers; Stirling Albion v. Rangers.

WEST GERMANY

NORTH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

Bremerhaven v. Werder; Osnabruck v. Altona 93.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Nordhorn v. Hamburger SV; Hannover v. VfV Hildesheim; Neumunster v. Braunschweig; Bergedorf v. Bremer SV; FC St. Pauli v. Holstein Kiel; SC Concordia v. VfB Oldenburg.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Hamburger SV v. SC Concordia.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Werder v. Osnabruck; VfV Hildesheim v. Noedhorn; Braunschweig v. Bergedorf; Bremer v. FC St. Pauli; Hannover v. Holstein Kiel; Oldenburg v. VfR Neumunster; Altona 93 v. Bremerhaven.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

Altona 93 v. Hamburger SV.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Bremer v. Werder; VfV Hildesheim v. FC St. Pauli; Osnabruck v. Braunschweig; Bergedorf v. Hannover; Neumunster v. Holstein Kiel; Noedhorn v. SC Concordia; Bremerhaven v. VfB Oldenburg.

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Atlanta	26	31
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Standard CL	11	16
Beerschot	11	15
FC Liegeois	11	14
FC Brugeois	11	14
La Gantoise	11	13

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Spartak Stalingrad	11	15
Spartak Pizen	12	15
Slovan Bratislava	12	14
RH Bratislava	12	13
Banik Ostrava	11	12

EIRE

	Pld.	Pts.
Drumcondra	2	4
Dundalk	2	4
St. Patricks	2	3
Shamrocks	2	3
Bohemians	2	3

ENGLAND

	Pld.	Pts.
Burnley	17	24
Everton	18	22
Tottenham	17	21
Ipswich	18	21
West Ham	18	20
Sheffield Wednesday	18	19

GREECE

	Pld.	Pts.
Panathinaikos	6	17
Ark	6	17
Olympiakos	6	17
Apollon	6	16
Paok	6	13
Iraklis	6	13

HOLLAND

	Pld.	Pts.
Feijenoord	11	18
PSV	11	16
Ajax	11	15
Fort. '54	11	14
Willem II	11	13
Bl.-Wit	11	13

ITALY

	Pld.	Pts.
Inter	12	19
Bologna	12	16
Torino	12	16
Milan	12	15
Roma	12	15
Fiorentina	12	15

MALTA

	Pld.	Pts.
Valletta	2	4
Floriana	2	4
Sliema	2	3
St. George's	2	2
Hamrun	2	1
Hibernians	2	1

PORTUGAL

	Pld.	Pts.
Sporting	5	9
Academica	5	8
Atletico Lusitano	5	7
Benfica	5	6
Olhanense	5	6
Belenenses	5	6

SCOTLAND

	Pld.	Pts.
Dundee	12	22
Kilmarnock	12	16
Rangers	10	15
Celtic	12	15
Hearts	10	13
Motherwell	12	13

SPAIN

	Pld.	Pts.
Real Madrid	12	22
At. Madrid	12	17
Zaragoza	12	16
Barcelona	12	15
Mallorca	12	13
Valencia	12	10

SOUTH AFRICA

	Pld.	Pts.
Durban City	30	49
Highlands Park	30	43
Germiston Callies	30	38
Benoni United	30	38
Rangers	30	37
Boksburg	30	36

SWITZERLAND

	Pld.	Pts.
Servette	10	17
Lucerne	10	15
Lausanne	10	14
La Chaux-de-Fonds	10	12
Zurich	10	11
Grasshoppers	10	11

WEST GERMANY BERLIN

	Pld.	Pts.
Tasmania	14	25
Hertha BSC	13	23
Tennis Borussia	13	17
Spandauer SV	13	12
Viktoria 89	13	11
BFC Sudring	13	11

WEST GERMANY NORTH

	Pld.	Pts.
Hamburger SV	14	26
Werder Bremen	14	20
VfV Hildesheim	14	20
Eintr. Braunschweig	15	19
ASV Bergedorf	14	18
FC St. Pauli	14	17

WEST GERMANY SOUTH

	Pld.	Pts.
Eintracht Frankfurt	14	24
1. FC Nurnberg	14	21
SSV Reutlingen	14	17
TSV Munchen 1860	14	16
Kickers Offenbach	14	16
Bayern Munchen	14	15

WEST GERMANY SOUTH WEST

	Pld.	Pts.
FK Pirmasens	15	25
Bor. Neunkirchen	14	21
1. FC Kaiserslautern	15	21
1. FC Saarbrucken	14	18
Spfr. Saarbrucken	14	16
Tura Ludwigshafen	15	15

WEST GERMANY WEST

	Pld.	Pts.
FC Schalke 04	14	23
1. FC Koln	14	22
Preuben Munster	14	19
Westfalia Herne	14	19
Schwarz-Weiß Essen	14	18
Viktoria Koln	14	16

YUGOSLAVIA

	Pld.	Pts.
Partizan	11	17
Etoile Rouge	11	15
Vojvodina	11	14
Dinamo	11	12
Rijeka	11	12
Sarajevo	11	10

HUNGARY

	Pld.	Pts.
Vasas	14	21
Ujpest	14	19
Tatabanya	14	18
Dorog	14	17
M.T.K.	14	16
Honved	14	15

MOROCCO

	Pld.	Pts.
Marrakech	9	21
Agadir	9	21
Fes	9	21
Raja	9	20
Far	9	19
Kenitra	9	19

UNITED STATES

	Pld.	Pts.
Ukrainians Nationals	10	17
Inter Soccer Club	10	15
Newark Portuguese	10	15
Falcons	10	8
Fall River	10	7
Hakoah	9	7

DANISH FOOTBALL AT LOW EBB

by
WILFRED SCHUHMACHER

LAST year Danish football received a further fillip by taking second place at the Olympic Games in Rome. But then history frequently repeats itself, for in 1948 at the London Olympics, Denmark succeeded in reaching third place, defeating Italy 5-3 in the quarter-finals.

As an "act of revenge," the whole side was sought by Italian clubs and so famous players such as the brothers Hansen, Praest and Soerensen went abroad. Since the Rome Olympics a similar situation has occurred. Two departures are Harald Nielsen and Flemming Nielsen to AC Bologna and Atalanta Bergamo respectively. Now Joern Soerensen of KB has been transferred to Metz in France.

Small wonder then that the national team is but a shadow of its former self. True enough, Denmark beat Norway 4-0 and Finland 9-1, but if you had seen these matches as I did, you would have realised that there are no weaker teams in Europe than Norway or Finland. The proof of this statement comes from the fact that three days later Denmark played in Dusseldorf and after fifty minutes the score was 5-0 against them so that many spectators thought of the famous occasion when Denmark were beaten 8-0 in Breslau in 1938. It was the birthday of the successful "Breslau XI." But the match ended 5-1 this time. Three weeks later the Danish team was thrashed by Poland five-nil in snow and ice.

In the European Cup the Danish representatives Odense B1913 were knocked out by Real Madrid. In the Cup Winners competition, Aarhus GF were eliminated by Werder Bremen. Then in the Inter-Cities-Fairs trophy Copenhagen were trounced by Dynamo Zagreb.

There is obviously something wrong with Danish football you will say, but Danish players who play in the afternoon or in the evening have to be in an office or shop the following morning. The players are real amateurs and give their best. After the fight in Odense with Real, Puskas said:

"If I were an amateur, I wouldn't run around as much as these Danish players."

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WORLD CUP GROUPS IN DETAIL

Continued from page 13

to Europe—Di Stefano is the most famous of the exportations of course, but another player in the 1951 line-up, Ruben Bravo, has long delighted French fans and is himself a very contented French citizen these days.

And the third interesting point about the line up—the Englishness of the club names. This derives naturally from the origin of football in the Argentine—it started from the passion of Englishmen in Buenos Aires around the 1860s for cricket! Out of season their thoughts turned to football and, in 1865, the Buenos Aires F.C. was formed—only Notts County and Stoke of existing "big clubs" can claim an earlier date. The game caught on quickly in Buenos Aires and gradually spread throughout the country and to this day a majority of the leading clubs have names that wholly or in part retain the English originals. It might also be mentioned that the Argentine is one of the few non-British countries where Rugby is played to a considerable extent—without approaching soccer in nation-wide popularity.

Most of Argentina's internationals have been played against their earliest rivals—Uruguay. As we have noted, Uruguay have had the edge over the Argentine in world successes but in overall results the balance is in Argentina's favour as, more importantly, it is in the South American Championships. The idea for this Championship came from the Argentinians themselves and it is Argentina who have dominated in the 25 Tournaments held between 1916 and 1959. They have been the winners on 12 occasions—and were non-starters in two of the 25.

That they are the reigning (1959) South American champions might give them added cause for believing that 1962 is their year for World Cup glory—unless they recall that they were the South American champions in 1957 and a year later slipped sadly away from the World Cup finals in Sweden after finishing bottom of their group behind West Germany, Northern Ireland and Czechoslovakia!

ECUADOR as we have seen made little real competition against Argentina for a World Cup Final place and like Bolivia, Colombia and Peru they have to live under the shadow of the Argentine, Brazil and Uruguay. There have been several indications over the last few years that Ecuador intend finding their own place in the sun if that is at all possible. They were, for example, decidely annoyed that, with Venezuela and Colombia, they were not invited to take part in the 1959 South American Championship—but felt sufficiently confident of support to organise their own "unofficial" South American Championship a few weeks later. Ostensibly this tournament was to celebrate the opening of their new stadium at Guayaquil but assuaging wounded national pride came into it as well.

The time is not yet ripe for the story-book ending—Ecuador did not win that "unofficial" Championship but neither was she bottom. A draw with the Argentine and a win over Paraguay gave Ecuador three points whereas Paraguay could manage only one from a draw with Uruguay. Oddly Uruguay dropped only that one point and were clear Tournament winners but of the other countries Brazil in particular fielded a much below strength side.

Feijenoord goalkeeper Pieters Graafland falls to the ground after bringing off a spectacular save. The picture was taken during a Dutch league game between Ajax and Feijenoord. The visiting side ran out the winners by three goals to one. (P.I.)

Tremendous finale to Springbok season

By VERNON WOODS

OCTOBER saw the finish to the League and the Castle Cup K.O. and £1,000 prize money. Durban City carried the former by six clear points dropping but thirteen out of a possible sixty. This was a repeat of their 1959 success in the same competition when the "rebel" paid game got under way.

The K.O. Cup Final attracted the biggest crowd ever to witness a soccer game in this country—40,000 jam-packed the Rand Stadium to see the League runners-up the Johannesburg Highlands Park upset the form book by defeating the holders, Durban City 3-2 after trailing 1-2 well into the second half.

Highlands turned in a storming finish that caused ex-Arsenal star and English cricketer Dennis Compton to comment: "One of the best organised and finest finals I have ever seen." At least 25,000 fans were unable to gain entrance to an all-ticket affair. The full reservation was snapped up in two days and by reservation is meant "all seated." South Africans black or white refuse to stand and watch.

The rampant cry now is for increased seating to make way for at least 75,000. Mayor Dave Marais whose Council owns the Rand Stadium has the blueprints before him and will pull the necessary strings.

N.F.L. Chairman Marais arrived back at Jan Smuts Airport to a hero's welcome. In his briefcase was a signed contract for the fabulous Real Madrid to visit the Republic next April for a one-match appearance.

With the League and Castle Cup behind now comes the United Tobacco Company Bowl plus £1,000 K.O. Competition. Limited to the eight top brass sides in the Republic this intensive seven game extravaganza is, by agreement with the cricket heirarchy, confined to night play. Mid-November will end a nine-months season an all-time record for this country at least.

Vivian Granger's *The World Game Comes to South Africa*—being a recap of Soccer's tremendous advance in the Republic under the professional banner after but two years is selling faster than the booksellers can cope.

John Rowley, lively coach-player to the Rangers Club is returning temporarily to his home—Britain—to marshall fresh talent for the new season commencing March next. Another British player, Ray Williams ex-Tranmere Rovers, has taken over the coach-playing chores of the Johannesburg Ramblers.

The same donors of the U.T.C. Bowl and prize money, knowing only too well the tremendous potential of soccer have given the new premier side for next season—Cape Town City—a handy £2,000 for development and Christmas is still three months away.

WORST DEFEAT IN NINETY MATCHES

TOM MULDOWNEY talks about Eire's unhappy phase

EIRE completed her World Cup programme at Prague with another inept performance and sustained the worst defeat in 27 years of international competition covering 90 engagements.

The 7-1 goal storm blown up by the Czechs came as no surprise. In the light of the Dublin debacle it was more or less expected and with the Irish squad unchanged many say deserved.

A five year old unbeaten home record was good reason for Irish optimism at the start of the 1961 campaign. Few, if any expected the series of humiliating defeats that followed and made it such an unhappy year for the once proud wearers of the shamrock.

LIMITATIONS

Wales, Scotland twice and Czechoslovakia, in turn exposed Eire's limitations as a footballing nation. In the shop window of world soccer the green was never seen to worse advantage. Prestige, especially on the Continent, where it was once so high, sank to a low ebb. The fighting Irish ceased to be attractive opponents. Indeed with the box-office gloss gone future engagements may be hard to obtain. At the moment only one —Austria—is listed for the rest of the season.

Any decrease in the number of international fixtures with its inevitable loss of revenue would be a crippling blow to the Eire Football Association who depend on that particular income to promote the game at home.

The situation has reached crisis point and officialdom must act quickly if they hope to salvage even a little from the wreckage of the past twelve months.

Nothing less than a new blueprint will do. The present system of employing a manager who never sees his team in training: of players meeting at an airport for the first time before winging their way to International duty is obsolete. Cobwebs clogging progress that must be swept away.

SUSPENDED

In today's International set-up country before club is the rule. Entire league programmes have been suspended and players whisked to distant chalets as countries prepare for games that assume stature of importance beyond the ordinary realms of sport.

Recently the Football League fielded the full England team against the League of Ireland, not in order to ensure victory, but as a means of perfecting team-work for the more important assignment at Santiago.

Eire, of course, are in an unenviable position. Her star performers owe allegiance to English clubs and their freedom is not easily obtained. There is also an acute shortage of players of International calibre. Though here public opinion holds selectors responsible for not making the best of those available. Home players especially seem to be overlooked when the green jersey is being filled. The theory of inferiority held against them is answered by looking through the record book. Yesteryear the local boys made Eire worthy foes on foreign fields.

Up and down the Emerald Isle in pub and club Eire's International ills are being discussed. From the myriad of debates emerges the thought that the solution lies in the appointment of a National Coach.

IMPROVED

Duggie Livingstone was Eire's first National Coach. When he left to take up a similar appointment in Belgium, Alex Stevenson the former Everton Irish International, took over. The Eire F.A. wanted playing standards improved and it is a tribute to the skill and patience of both men that in a short time much progress was made.

Above all else their presence made Irish clubs coach conscious. The arrival of the club coach may have been the reason why Stevenson was not replaced when he joined St. Patricks Athletic as manager.

The wheel has turned a full circle. The national team is now in the dog-house while the game at home is on the up-grade. If therefore a National Coach is employed all his energy should be directed to the building of a strong National eleven.

The formation of a panel of the best players in the League of Ireland should be the first step. They could be brought together at intervals for mid-week practise. Games against league clubs or selected sides played under floodlights would not interfere with club training or disrupt league fixtures. These matches would provide a source of income to meet the cost of the experiment and give fans a new interest.

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